



## REAL MADRID STAR PLAYER DI STEFANO DIES IN SPAIN AT 88

Page 22



## WALL STREET DIPS, PULLING THE DOW CLOSER TO 17,000

Page 24

# Aruba TODAY

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Tuesday, July 8, 2014



Gustavo Torres, second from left, executive director, CASA de Maryland, leads a march through Lafayette Park in Washington, Monday, July 7, 2014, toward the White House following a news conference of immigrant families and children's advocates responding to the President Barack Obama's response to the crisis of unaccompanied children and families illegally entering the US.

(AP Photo/Pablo Martinez Monsivais)

### White House:

## Most Kids at Border Won't Stay In US

CHARLES BABINGTON

Associated Press

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — The White House said Monday that most unaccompanied migrant children arriving at the U.S.-Mexico border are unlikely to qualify for humanitarian relief that

would prevent them from being sent back to their home countries.

The warning came as the White House finalized a spending request to Congress detailing the additional resources President Barack Obama wants

to hire more immigration judges and open additional detention facilities to deal with the border crisis. White House officials said they planned to send the more than \$2 billion request to lawmakers on Tuesday. White House spokesman

Josh Earnest said that while the administration will allow the immigration on review process to take place, officials don't expect many of the children arriving at the border to be able to stay in the U.S.

"It's unlikely that most of

these kids will qualify for humanitarian relief," Earnest said. "It means they will not have a legal basis for remaining in this country and will be returned."

Continued on page 4

## Gaza militants unleash heavy rocket fire on Israel

JOSEF FEDERMAN  
Associated Press

**JERUSALEM (AP)**—Militants in the Gaza Strip unleashed dozens of rockets on southern Israel late Monday, setting off air raid sirens and forcing hundreds of thousands of Israelis to stay indoors as the military rushed more forces to the border and warned that even heavier fighting looked likely.

The latest violence came as Israel pressed forward with its investigation of six Jewish youths suspected of abducting and killing a Palestinian teenager, and Israeli leaders sought to calm an emotional debate over whether the country's politically charged atmosphere led to the gruesome crime. An Israeli official said three of the youths had confessed to the attack.

Tensions have been high since three Israeli teenagers kidnapped June 12 in the West Bank were later found dead, followed by last week's slaying of the Palestinian youth in what many suspect was a revenge attack. Throughout the unrest, Gaza militants have fired more than 200 rockets and mortars into Israel, including close to 100 on Monday alone.

Israel has responded with dozens of airstrikes, but has not been able to halt the attacks. Eight Palestinian militants were killed in fight-

ing Monday, the highest death toll yet. Dozens of rockets were fired Monday, including 40 launched in a single hour after nightfall, setting off air raid sirens up to 50 miles (80 kilometers) from Gaza, the military said. Twelve rockets were inter-

cepted by rocket-defense gave a special interview in Arabic to Al-Jazeera, warning that Hamas would bear the consequences for the escalation. Among the dead were six Hamas militants who Israel said were killed in an accidental blast in a tunnel packed with explosives. Hamas, the Islamic militant

organization to mobilize up to 1,500 reservists.

The deaths of the Hamas militants had made a "substantial influence" on the situation, he said.

"There is a potential of deterioration due to their death. Therefore the IDF has to continue to reinforce capabilities in the



**Israel military bulldozers are lined up near the Israeli and Gaza border Monday, July 7, 2014. The Islamic militant group Hamas that rules Gaza vowed revenge on Israel for the death of several of its members killed in an airstrike early Monday morning in the deadliest exchange of fire since the latest round of attacks began weeks ago. About a dozen rockets were fired at Israel from Gaza overnight the military said.**

batteries, it added, while the others landed in open areas. It was the deepest penetration of rocket strikes in the current round of fighting and raised the likelihood of an even tougher Israeli response. Maj. Gen. Yoav Mordechai, a senior military official,

group that controls Gaza, vowed revenge, saying "the enemy will pay a tremendous price."

Lt. Col. Peter Lerner, an Israel Defense Forces spokesman, said the army was moving two infantry forces to the Gaza border and had received autho-

south, with the potential that things could escalate further," he said.

Israeli security officials said Israel was leaning against a massive operation and would likely increase the pressure gradually with stronger and more numerous retaliatory attacks. □

**Bahrain ejects US diplomat after he met Shiites**

REEM KHALIFA  
Associated Press

**MANAMA, Bahrain (AP)**—Bahrain ordered a top U.S. diplomat to leave the country on Monday, the Foreign Ministry said, after he met with a leading Shiite opposition group.

The ministry said in a statement that U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for Democracy, Human Rights and Labor Tom Malinowski is not welcome in Bahrain. It said he intervened in the country's domestic affairs by holding meetings with some groups at the expense of others.

The statement said that such meetings "segregate" the people of the nation. His actions, added the statement, "run counter to conventional diplomatic norms."

Bahrain is home to the U.S. Navy's 5th Fleet.

Despite the diplomatic spat, the Foreign Ministry statement said relations between Bahrain and the U.S. remain strong and important. "The government of Bahrain asserts that this should not in any way affect the two countries' relationship of mutual interests," the statement said.

Malinowski was ordered to leave after meeting with Bahrain's Shiite opposition group, Al Wifaq. He arrived in the country on Sunday and was scheduled to stay for three days, but his visit was cut short by the abrupt order to depart a day early. He also had meetings scheduled with government officials, as well as leading human rights activist Nabeel Rajab who was released from prison late May after serving two years for taking part in illegal protests. Rajab told The Associated Press he did not meet Malinowski. Bahrain, a tiny-island nation off the coast of the Arabian Peninsula, has been roiled by nearly-daily protests by Shiites seeking greater political rights since early 2011. Repeated rounds of political talks have failed to significantly close the rifts between its Sunni monarchy and majority Shiite factions. □

## Afghan results are in question as fraud count widens

MATTHEW ROSENBERG  
© 2014 New York Times

**KABUL, Afghanistan** - Despite accusations of widespread fraud and threats of protests, Afghanistan's election commission announced preliminary presidential runoff results Monday, then followed them with a huge caveat: that there was no winner yet, as millions of votes were being subjected to a special audit for fraud.

In an announcement delayed for hours by negotiations, the country's Independent Election Commission reported that Ashraf Ghani Ahmadzai was more than a million votes ahead of Abdullah Abdullah, with

a total of more than 8.1 million votes counted. That tally was far higher than previously estimated, and immediately cast even more doubt on an election already marred by weeks of conflict and accusations.

Votes from nearly a third of the country's 22,000 polling stations were being set aside for a special audit to spot fraudulent votes, said Muhammad Yousaf Nuristani, the chairman of the election commission. Votes from 50 stations had already been disqualified because of fraud, he added, without specifying the exact number of ballots at those stations, or in whose

favor they were cast. A separate election complaints commission is also likely to disqualify votes deemed fraudulent.

"There is no winner yet," Nuristani cautioned as he made the announcement. Neither Ahmadzai, a former finance minister and World Bank official, nor Abdullah, an influential opposition politician and former foreign minister, offered immediate reaction to the announcement, which came after the two sides spent hours trying to thrash out an agreement on how many polling stations would be audited. The U.S. ambassador, James B. Cunningham, and Jan

Kubis, the U.N. special envoy for Afghanistan, took part in the meetings, officials said.

It was not clear whether the two campaigns had reached any agreement. The number of stations to be audited, about 7,000, appeared to be lower than what the Abdullah campaign had been pressing for, and the campaign officials expressed displeasure without elaborating, saying a formal reaction would come Monday night.

After the announcement of the preliminary results, Nuristani told reporters, "There is no doubt that the negotiation between the candidates continues." □

# Some US-bound air travelers must turn on phones

EILEEN SULLIVAN  
Associated Press

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — Passengers at some overseas airports that offer U.S.-bound flights will soon be required to power on their electronic devices in order to board their flights — a measure intended to enhance aviation security at a time when intelligence officials are concerned about hidden explosives, a counterterrorism official said. American intelligence officials have been concerned about new al-Qaida efforts to produce a bomb that would go undetected through airport security. There is no indication that such a bomb has been created or that there's a specific threat to the U.S., but intelligence has suggested that al-Qaida and like-minded groups are focused on perfecting an explosive that could be hidden in shoes, electronics or cosmetics, said the official who spoke on condition of anonymity because the official was not authorized to publicly discuss the matter. The Transportation Security Administration said it is adding the requirement that passengers coming to the U.S. from some airports must turn on devices such as cellphones before boarding. It says devices that won't power up won't be allowed on planes and those travelers may have to undergo additional screening. Turning on an electronic device can show a screener that the laptop or cell phone, for instance, is a working device and that the batteries are used for operating that device and are not hidden explosives. "As the traveling public knows, all electronic devices are screened by security officers," the TSA said in the Sunday release announcing the new steps. Homeland Security Secretary Jeh Johnson recently ordered the TSA to call for extra security measures at some international airports with direct flights to the United States. TSA does not conduct screening abroad, but has the ability to set screening criteria

and processes for flights flying to the U.S. from abroad, according to a Homeland Security Department official, who was not allowed to discuss the changes publicly and spoke on condition of anonymity. During an interview aired Sunday on NBC's "Meet The Press," Johnson declined to speculate on whether new security procedures called for overseas will be required at domestic airports in the future. "We continue to evaluate things," he said. "The screening we have right domestically from one domestic airport to another is pretty robust, as the American traveling public knows. In this instance we felt that it was important to crank it up some at the last point of departure airports and we'll continually evaluate the situation."

Heathrow, Europe's busiest airport, told passengers that they might not be allowed to take electronic devices onto planes if they could not be switched on. It posted a security update on its website telling passengers, "If you are flying to the U.S. please make sure any of your electronic devices are charged before you travel."

British Airways also issued an update for passengers flying from Britain to the U.S. "Customers may be asked to turn on any electronic or battery-powered devices such as telephones, tablets, e-books and laptops in front of security teams and/or demonstrate the item's functionality," the update said. "If, when asked to do so, you are unable to demonstrate that your device has power you will not be allowed to fly on your planned service."

Aviation remains an attractive target to global terrorists, who are consistently looking for ways to circumvent airport security measures, the DHS official said. Some details on specific enhancements and locations are sensitive because U.S. officials do not want to give information "to those who would do us harm," the official said. □



Homeland Security Secretary Jeh Johnson testifies on Capitol Hill in Washington. Johnson is ordering increased security measures at some overseas airports offering direct flights to the United States.

(AP Photo/Charles Dharapak)

## Obama signs intelligence bill into law

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — President Barack Obama has signed into law legislation that authorizes spending of \$564 million over five years for the U.S. intelligence community and expands protections for intelligence agency whistleblowers against retaliation.

The White House said Obama signed the bill Monday. The cost figure does

not include classified programs. The legislation specifies that employees would be protected when they make disclosures about potential wrongdoing within their agencies, to internal watchdogs or to Congress' intelligence committees. The legislation adopts and expands whistleblower protection proposals made by Obama in 2012.

The legislation would encourage whistleblowers to voice concerns through channels rather than through unauthorized and potentially damaging leaks, supporters said.

The new law, however, does not provide protections to intelligence agency contractors, such as National Security Agency leaker Edward Snowden. □

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# White House: Most kids at border won't stay in US

Continued from Front

Some 9,700 unaccompanied children from Central America were taken into custody in the U.S. in May alone. Most are from Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador, where spikes in violence and poverty are prompting parents to send their children on difficult and dangerous journeys north.

Their numbers have overwhelmed U.S. agencies. It's unclear how quickly the immigration review process will unfold. Homeland Security Secretary Jeh Johnson acknowledged Sunday that such proceedings might be long delayed, and he said that coping with floods of unaccompanied minors crossing the border is a legal and humanitarian dilemma for the United States.

"Our border is not open to illegal migration, and we are taking a number of steps to address it, including turning people around faster," Johnson told NBC's "Meet the Press." At the



From left, Raul Amador Sanchez, 7, from Georgia, Alexandra Diaz, 9, and her brother Andy Diaz, 7, both from Baltimore, Md., hold up signs as they join their parent during a news conference of immigrant families and children's advocates responding to the President Barack Obama's response to the crisis of unaccompanied children and families illegally entering the US, Monday, July 7, 2014, on the steps of St. John's Church in Washington.

(AP Photo/Pablo Martinez Monsivais)

same time, he said, the administration is "looking at ways to create additional options for dealing with the children in particular, con-

sistent with our laws and our values."

Repeatedly pressed to say whether thousands of Central American children

will be deported promptly, Johnson said, "We need

to find more efficient, effective ways to turn this tide around generally, and

we've already begun to do that."

A George W. Bush-era law to address human trafficking prevents the government from returning these children to their home countries without taking them into custody and eventually through a deportation hearing. Minors from Mexico and Canada, by contrast, can be sent back across the border more easily. The administration says it wants more flexibility under the law.

Johnson said the administration has dramatically sped up the processing of adults who enter the country illegally, and it is opening more detention facilities.

Unaccompanied Central American children generally are being released to relatives already in the United States. Mothers with their children often are released with a notice to appear later in immigration court.

Meanwhile, word of seemingly successful border crossings reaches their home countries, encouraging others to try.

Johnson said the U.S. government is trying to send the message that all people who enter the country illegally will face deportation proceedings eventually. In Central America, he said, "the criminal smuggling organizations are putting out a lot of disinformation about supposed free passes into this country" that will expire soon. "We're cracking down on the smuggling organizations by surging law enforcement resources," Johnson said.

Johnson and others are warning of the dangers that immigrants, and especially children, face when they try to reach the United States on their own. Johnson is scheduled to meet with Guatemalan officials later this week. □

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JESS BIDGOOD  
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**BOSTON** - Federal prosecutors told jurors Monday that a student knew his friend Dzhokhar Tsarnaev was behind the deadly Boston Marathon bombings when the student removed from a dorm room materials that he thought had been used to make the bombs. In the first trial involving the bombing that paralyzed Boston, the student, Azamat Tazhayakov, faces obstruction of justice and conspiracy charges.

Dzhokhar Tsarnaev and his older brother, Tamerlan, have been accused of making the bombs - two pressure cookers filled with explosives and shrapnel - that blew up near the finish line of the 2013 race, killing three people and injured hundreds more. During a manhunt, the police say, the two brothers shot and killed a campus police officer at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, carjacked an SUV and led officers on a chase, throwing several pipe bombs from the vehicle. Tamerlan Tsarnaev was killed in a shootout; Dzhokhar was found hiding in a boat in nearby Watertown, badly wounded.

On Monday in U.S. District Court, Tazhayakov, 20, wore a dark suit and leaned back in his chair, sometimes listening to an interpreter through an earpiece or writing on a pad of paper. He has pleaded not guilty. Tazhayakov is the first of three of Tsarnaev's college friends to go to trial on obstruction charges. The other two men are Dias Kadyrbayev and Robel Phillipos. □

## Clippers sale hangs in balance as trial begins

LINDA DEUTSCH

TAMI ABDOLLAH

Associated Press

**LOS ANGELES (AP)** — A jurisdictional issue delayed Monday's scheduled start of a trial focusing on whether Donald Sterling's

estranged wife had the authority under terms of a family trust to unilaterally negotiate a \$2 billion sale of the Los Angeles Clippers. Lawyers for Donald Sterling moved late last week to shift the case to federal

court due to alleged medical privacy violations.

Los Angeles Superior Court Judge Michael Levanas delayed the start of the trial while Donald Sterling's lawyers sought a decision from a federal judge on whether

to take the case.

The motion was assigned to a U.S. District Court judge to consider and Levanas ordered parties to return to his court at 2:30 p.m. local time (2130 GMT).

"It may very well be this is not going to be in my hands," Levanas said.

Shelly Sterling was present for the day's initial court session but her husband was not.

"Unfortunately the case is in procedural limbo," said her attorney, Pierce O'Donnell.

Shelly Sterling struck the deal to sell the Clippers to former Microsoft CEO Steve Ballmer after Donald Sterling's racist remarks to a girlfriend were publicized and the NBA moved to oust him as team owner.

In order to do so, she had two doctors examine her 80-year-old husband and they declared him mentally incapacitated and unable to act as an administrator of The Sterling Family Trust, which owns the Clippers. □



In this file photo, Shelly Sterling sits with her husband, Donald Sterling, right, during a Los Angeles Clippers' NBA basketball game in Los Angeles. A jurisdictional issue delayed Monday's scheduled start of a trial focusing on whether Donald Sterling's estranged wife had the authority under terms of a family trust to unilaterally negotiate a \$2 billion sale of the Los Angeles Clippers.

(AP Photo/Mark J. Terrill)

## Court halts denial of licenses for immigrants

JACQUES BILLEAUD

**PHOENIX (AP)** — An appeals court sided with advocates for young immigrants who argued that the southwestern state of Arizona's policy of denying them driver's licenses even though they had work permits under an Obama administration policy violated their equal protection rights.

The ruling Monday by the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals marks a victory for immigrant rights advocates who argued the young immigrants were harmed by unequal treatment by the state.

The appeals court agreed on that issue and said the advocates also showed a likelihood that the immigrants would be harmed by the state's denial.

The Obama administration in June 2012 took administrative steps to shield thousands of immigrants from deportation. Applicants must have come to the United States before they turned 16, be younger than 30, have been in the country for at least five continuous years, be in school or have graduated from high school or a GED program, or have served in the military. They also were

allowed to apply for a two-year renewable work permit.

Brewer issued an executive order in August 2012 directing state agencies to deny driver's licenses and other public benefits to young immigrants who get work authorization under the program.

In May 2013, U.S. District Judge David Campbell rejected the argument by immigrant rights advocates who said Gov. Jan Brewer's policy was unconstitutional because it's trumped by federal law.

But Campbell had said the immigrant rights advocates

are likely to succeed in arguing that the state lets some immigrants with work permits get driver's licenses but won't let immigrants protected under Obama's program have the same benefit.

The state revised the policy late last summer by saying it would stop issuing driver's licenses to all people who receive deportation deferrals from the federal government, not just young immigrants given protection under Obama's policy.

The governor's attorneys argued the revision makes the equal-protection arguments moot. □

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## Tough guys in Staten Island battle for congressional seat

JASON HOROWITZ

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**NEW YORK** - Domenic Recchia, a Democrat campaigning to unseat U.S. Rep. Michael Grimm, thinks there's something for everyone to loathe about Grimm.

There is that 20-count federal indictment, for starters - accusing Grimm, a two-term Republican from Staten Island, of employing illegal immigrants and hiding around \$1 million in sales and wages at his Manhattan health-food restaurant. Not the kind of work history, Recchia says, that is likely to impress the many union members who live in the neighborhoods of the 11th District, encompassing Staten Island and a slice of southern Brooklyn.

And Recchia says he is appalled at Grimm for threatening, on camera, to toss a diminutive television re-

porter off a U.S. Capitol balcony. "Michael Grimm should pick on someone his own size. You know?" said

Recchia, a large and lumbering trial lawyer. Grimm is a taut and stocky former Marine. "I know how to

fight," Recchia said, recalling his college years playing outside linebacker. The city's Democratic



**Domenic Recchia, center, a Democrat challenging Republican Michael Grimm for his congressional seat, makes campaign calls at his office in Staten Island, N.Y.. It is precisely Recchia's old-school Brooklyn bearing that the city's Democratic power brokers are banking on to neutralize Grimm's own outer borough credentials.**

(Kirsten Luce/The New York Times)

## GM resists recalling trucks over brake line problem

CHRISTOPHER JENSEN

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Under pressure from federal regulators and legislators, General Motors this year has been reviewing past safety problems. That has resulted in 54 recalls affecting about 25.7 million vehicles in the United States. But the automaker has yet to recall almost 1.8 million full-size pickups and sport utility vehicles from the 1999 to 2003 model years for corrosion-related brake failures.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration has been investigating the issue since 2010, and the agency has received about 1,000 complaints from owners, some of whom report narrowly avoiding crashes.

"Hit brakes and a line blew. Almost hit car in front of me," the owner of a 2003 Chevrolet Silverado wrote in a complaint filed in June. "Like all GM trucks in snow country my brake lines rusted through along with my rear backing plates. I don't know how many people have to be killed from blown brake lines for them to do anything. I guess a lot since they held off 10 years on their current problem."

GM has resisted recalling the pickups and SUVs, telling federal regulators that rusted brake lines are a routine maintenance issue. In addition, the automaker says, the vehicles have dual brake lines, so "the affected vehicle would be capable

of stopping."

In a statement this year about the issue, the company said rusted brake lines were an industrywide problem.

"Brake line wear on vehicles is a maintenance issue that affects the auto industry, not just General Motors," the company said. "The trucks in question are long out of factory warranty, and owners' manuals urge customers to have their brake lines inspected the same way brake pads need replacement for wear."

General Motors' assertion that rusting brake lines are an industry issue is not supported by complaints filed with Carcomplaints.com, Mike Wickenden, its owner,

wrote in an email. He said the website had received 56 complaints about the 1999-2003 Silverado, compared with five for the Dodge Ram, two for the Ford F-Series and none for the Toyota Tundra. The models originally under investigation include the 2002-03 Cadillac Escalade, the 1999-2003 Chevrolet Silverado and GMC Sierra pickups, the 1999-2003 Chevrolet Suburban, the 2000-03 Chevrolet Tahoe and GMC Yukon, the 2000 GMC Yukon XL and the 2002-03 Chevrolet Avalanche 1500 and 2500. However, in a 2012 letter to GM, a federal regulator asked for additional information covering the 2004-06 model years. □

power brokers are banking on Recchia's old-school Brooklyn bearing - his one-two-tree accent - to neutralize Grimm's own outer-borough credentials. Democrats had for years sought to recruit Recchia - a former City Council finance chairman, top lieutenant for former City Council Speaker Christine Quinn and, not unimportant for the district, an Italian-American.

Now redistricting has moved roughly 60,000 votes into the district from that of Democratic U.S. Rep. Jerrold Nadler. Democrats also point to Recchia's better relationship with unions than others who have unsuccessfully challenged Grimm. They note the influx to Bay Ridge of liberals priced out of Park Slope and an expectation that Recchia's Brooklyn roots will help him run up the score there.

But Democrats acknowledge that the election will ultimately be determined on Staten Island, which cast the overwhelming percentage of votes in 2012 and which traditionally prefers tough-guy Republicans, most notably former Mayor Rudolph Giuliani. Here, Grimm's aggressiveness and allegations of tax cheating seem far from politically fatal. He is still a war hero and a former undercover agent for the FBI. Recchia is a foreigner from across the bay.

On a recent afternoon, workers returning from Manhattan on the Staten Island Ferry complained about unnamed forces "persecuting" and "railroading" Grimm. □

## US Financial Front:

## Reno recasts itself as new home to tech startups



A street newly nicknamed Startup Row intersects the city's old strip of casinos, in downtown Reno, Nev. In June, 2014. The city is looking to shed its image as a fading casino town in favor of one as a high-tech hub of e-commerce ventures, an Apple data center and a testing ground for drones.

(David Calvert/The New York Times)

DIONNE SEARCEY

© 2014 New York Times

RENO, Nev. - A street newly nicknamed Startup Row intersects this city's old strip of casinos touting Money Maker Jackpots and Crazy Cash Slot Tournaments. While old-fashioned slot machines are whirring nearby, this stretch of road has become a home for smartphone app makers, cloud computing developers and companies like one that set up shop here recently to build tiny sensors that allow devices to connect to the Internet.

For most of America, Reno stirs images of worn-out casinos, strip clubs and quick divorces. But it is trying to change that reputation and reduce its reliance on gambling by taking advantage of its location and low taxes to gain a solid footing in the new economy. Instead of poker payouts, Reno now boasts of e-commerce ventures, an Apple data center and a testing ground for drones. It also hopes to attract a large factory to build batteries for Tesla's electric vehicles. "People believe in this town, and they're tired of

being presented as this joke," said Abbi Whitaker, a local business owner who helped create a marketing campaign to reshape Reno's image. "When you're at rock bottom, there's a good chance to reinvent how you go up."

Reno exemplifies how cities not far from California, including Boise, Idaho, and Tucson, Arizona, are trying to poach California's technology culture to help diversify their economies, marketing themselves as places where taxes are lower and environmental regulations are less onerous. They hope that when the next recession strikes, they will not sink to the same depths as they did in the last one.

Reno is among the best situated, less than a four-hour drive from San Francisco and in a state with no corporate or inventory taxes. It gained appeal as an outpost of Silicon Valley nearly a decade ago after a Microsoft licensing unit and an Amazon distribution warehouse moved in. California refugees were buying homes, lured by the relatively low cost of living

and the 30-minute drive to Lake Tahoe.

Then came the Great Recession, walloping Reno's gambling industry and its housing and job markets. At the end of the recession in 2009, homes had lost nearly half the value they had in the beginning of 2006, and median prices continued to fall.

At its depths in September 2010, Reno's unemployment rate was 13.4 percent compared with the national average, 9.5 percent, according to Moody's Analytics.

But now, after several years scraping along the bottom in almost every measure of economic health, Reno appears poised to turn the corner, according to economists who study the region. Housing prices are slowly starting to rise. The unemployment rate has declined to 7.1 percent.

New technology companies are arriving, and older ones are expanding, including Zulily, an e-commerce company for women and children's clothing and home décor, which announced plans in May to double its warehouse and

hire 600 people.

In Reno, where many workers traditionally have been employed in some aspect of the gambling industry, the workforce is less educated than in more populous cities, economists said. Tesla, for instance, might have to recruit from elsewhere to find enough trained workers for its battery plant, should it decide to build here.

"We're not going to wait for the gaming industry to come back," said Mike Kazmierski, president of the Economic Development Authority of Western Nevada. "It's not going to. So what are our strengths, and how do we capitalize on them?"

Three years ago, Reno and the neighboring town Sparks averaged four tours a month for prospective companies. Kazmierski said that had increased to 10, with scouts from 14 companies visiting in May.

"The most challenging obstacle to get over is our image," he said. "That image of a second-tier kind of Ve-

gas is embedded in their heads."

Visiting executives are surprised to learn that the Truckee River cuts through downtown, where a restaurant scene is emerging. Bike paths wind through the city and beyond, and urban gardeners raise chickens in their backyards. A new downtown boutique hotel has no casino. Instead, its main feature is its 164-foot climbing wall.

The Reno Collective, along Startup Row, offers a shared work space to foster entrepreneurship. On a recent day the office was filled by young people tapping on laptops, some sitting on exercise balls, and one with a dog curled around her feet.

In the same building, Eric Jennings set up his company, Pinoccio, two years ago, making tiny radio sensors for enabling Internet connectivity.

"There's such a low barrier to entry here," Jennings said. "If you're passionate about something, you can just take it on." □

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# Backlash stirs in US against foreign worker visas

LAURA MUÑOZ

PAUL WISEMAN

Associated Press

Kelly Parker was thrilled when she landed her dream job in 2012 provid-

vorced mother of three hoped it was the beginning of a new career with the motorcycle company. The dream didn't last long. Parker claims she was laid

India. Now she has joined a federal lawsuit alleging the global staffing firm that ran Harley-Davidson's tech support discriminated against American work-

Hajinlian, 56, who develops his own web applications on the side, said he applied for a job in April through a headhunter and that the potential client appeared interested, scheduling a longer interview. Then, said Hajinlian, the headhunter called back and said the client had gone with an H-1B worker whose annual salary was about \$10,000 less.

"I didn't even get a chance to negotiate down," he said.

The H-1B program allows employers to temporarily hire workers in specialty occupations. The government issues up to 85,000 H-1B visas to businesses every year, and recipients can stay up to six years. Although no one tracks exactly how many H-1B holders are in the U.S., experts estimate there are at least 600,000 at any one time. Skilled guest workers can also come in on other types of visas.

An immigration bill passed in the U.S. Senate last year would have increased the number of annually available H-1B visas to 180,000 while raising fees and increasing oversight, although language was removed that would have required all companies to consider qualified U.S. workers before foreign workers are hired.

The House of Representatives never acted on the measure. With immigration reform considered dead this year in Congress, President Barack Obama last week declared he will use executive actions to address some changes. It is not known whether the H-1B program will be on the agenda.

Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg is among the high-profile executives pushing for more H-1Bs. The argument has long been that there aren't enough qualified American workers to fill certain jobs, especially in science, engineering and technology. Advocates also assert that some visa holders will stay and become entrepreneurs.

Critics say there is no across-the-board shortage of American tech workers, and that if there were, wages would be rising rapidly. Instead, wage gains for software developers have been modest, while wages have fallen for programmers. Much of the backlash against the H-1B and other visa programs can be traced to whistleblower Jay Palmer, a former Infosys employee. In 2011, Palmer supplied federal investigators with information that helped lead to Infosys paying a record \$34 million settlement last year. Prosecutors had accused the company of circumventing the law by bringing in lower-paid workers on short-term executive business visas instead of using H-1B visas.

Last year, IBM paid \$44,000 to the U.S. Justice Department to settle allegations its job postings expressed a preference for foreign workers. And a September trial is set against executives at the staffing company Dibon Solutions, accused of illegally bringing in foreign workers on H-1B visas without having jobs for them — a practice known as "benching."

In court papers, Parker claims that she was given positive reviews by supervisors, including at Infosys, which she maintains oversaw her work and the decision to let her go. The only complaint: Her desk was messy and she'd once been late. Neither Parker nor other workers involved in similar lawsuits and contacted by The Associated Press would discuss their cases. Parker's attorney, Dan Kotchen, noted that the case centers on discrimination based on national origin but said that "hiring visa workers is part of how they obtain their discriminatory objectives." Infosys is seeking a dismissal, in part on grounds that it never hired or fired Parker. Parker was hired by a different subcontractor and kept on, initially, after Infosys began working with Harley-Davidson. □



**Jay Palmer, a whistleblower against Infosys, an Indian firm that eventually paid a hefty fine for H-1B visa infractions, poses during a New York visit, Thursday July 3, 2014. Amid calls for expanding the nation's temporary skilled worker program, some Americans are pushing back. They argue the so-called H-1B program has been hijacked by staffing companies that import cheaper, lower-level workers to replace more expensive U.S. employees.**

(AP Photo/Bebeto Matthews)

ing tech support for Harley-Davidson's Tomahawk, Wisconsin, plants. The di-

off one year later after she trained her replacement, a newly arrived worker from

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## 3 bridges blown up in Ukraine near rebel-held city

YURAS KARMAU

Associated Press

**DONETSK, Ukraine (AP) —**

After Ukrainian forces' seizure of a key rebel stronghold in the east, the major cities of Donetsk and Luhansk could be the next fo-

urges Europe to put pressure on the government to end the fighting, but takes no overt action. Rebels in Ukraine and nationalists at home have called for the Kremlin to send in troops to protect the pro-

industrial city of 1 million where pro-Russian rebels have declared independence as the Donetsk People's Republic. Pavel Gubarev, the region's self-described governor, had promised "real partisan

Civilians would be allowed to leave and seek aid elsewhere, national security council spokesman Andrei Lysenko said Monday, according to the ITAR-Tass news agency.

Battles between Ukrainian forces and the separatists have left over 400 people dead and thousands homeless since the uprising began in April. Ukraine's government ended a shaky, unilateral 10-day cease-fire last week, and has since stepped up its fight against the rebels.

It was not clear who blew up the highway and rail bridges Monday. Their destruction would most benefit the rebels by blocking avenues for military advances, but the rebel Donetsk People's Republic issued a statement blaming two of the blasts on Ukrainians aiming to interfere with rebel supply lines. In the village of Novobakhmutivka, where a rail line crosses over a highway out

of Donetsk, an 11-wagon cargo train was perched perilously Monday on the collapsed bridge. The road leads toward Slovyansk, a former insurgent stronghold that was recaptured Saturday by Ukrainian troops.

Anatoly Krasov, who was driving along the road Monday, said he saw an explosion before the bridge collapsed with a large cargo train on it. He said a group of men dressed in the camouflage uniforms often worn by the rebels then got into their cars and drove back toward Donetsk.

Two other bridges on roads leading from Slovyansk to Donetsk were also destroyed Monday in the villages of Zakitne and Seleznevka, the Road Transportation Agency of Donetsk Region said.

The insurgents control the regional administration building in Donetsk and checkpoints on the city's outskirts. □



People walk under a destroyed railroad bridge over a main road leading into the east Ukraine city of Donetsk, near the village of Novobakhmutivka, 20 km North from the city of Donetsk, eastern Ukraine Monday, July 7, 2014. The bridge has been destroyed, blocking a key access route to the rebel-held city.

cus of major fighting. Three bridges on roads leading to Donetsk were blown up Monday — possibly to hinder military movements, though the rebels claim it was the work of pro-Kiev saboteurs.

As nerves fray over the prospect of fighting in the sprawling cities, Russia

Russia insurgents, but President Vladimir Putin, wary of more sanctions being imposed by the West, has resisted.

Separatist fighters driven out of the city of Slovyansk and other eastern towns by the Ukrainian army over the weekend are regrouping in Donetsk, a major

war around the whole perimeter of Donetsk" before thousands of supporters at a rally Sunday.

Ukrainian authorities meanwhile say their strategy is to blockade Donetsk and the rebel-held city of Luhansk, the two largest cities in the separatist east, in order to cut off rebel supply lines.

## Bulgaria, Russia push for pipeline blocked by EU

**SOFIA, Bulgaria (AP) —** Bulgaria and Russia on Monday voiced hope that work on the Russia-led South Stream gas pipeline project, which had been blocked by the European Union, can be resumed.

Last month, Bulgaria, an EU member, suspended work on the pipeline after the EU executive commission said Bulgaria hadn't respected

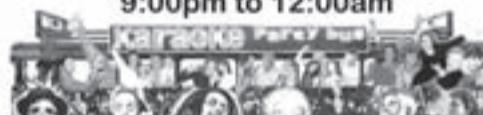
internal market rules covering the award of public contracts. Bulgarian Prime Minister Oresharski said the pipeline project is very important to his country and its implementation will be resumed within the European legal framework. Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov, who was visiting, called on the EU to restart dialogue with Russia on the pipeline

project, adding that construction is still on deadline. Oresharski said Bulgaria has addressed the issues the EU had raised and believes they will be resolved. Since the outbreak of the Ukraine crisis, Bulgaria's Socialist-led government has been trying to balance its allegiance to the EU and its almost total dependence on Russian gas. □

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**Iraq:**

## Parliament squabbling over when to next meet

**RYAN LUCAS,  
QASSIM ZAHRA**

**Associated Press**

**BAGHDAD (AP)** — With political leaders deadlocked, Iraq's parliament squabbled Monday over when to hold its next session, potentially delaying the formation of a new government for weeks despite the threat from extremists who have seized control of a large chunk of the country and declared the establishment of an Islamic state. The acting speaker of parliament initially announced that the legislature would not meet again until mid-August because there was no agreement among factions over the top leadership posts — particularly the prime minister, with incumbent Nouri al-Maliki facing a campaign to replace him. But after an uproar over the long delay, speaker Mahdi al-Hafidh announced Monday night that there was a preliminary agreement among lawmakers to meet Sunday, July 13. But even that appeared uncertain, since al-Hafidh added that an official announcement of the date would not come until Tuesday.

With politicians struggling to even agree on when



**Iraqi parliament members argue during a session of the new parliament in the heavily fortified Green Zone in Baghdad, Iraq. With political leaders deadlocked, Iraq's parliament postponed on Monday its next session until mid-August, delaying the formation of a new government for weeks despite the threat from extremists who have seized control of a large chunk of the country and declared the establishment of an Islamic state.**

(AP Photo/Hadi Mizban)

to meet, it was hard to see how they could quickly forge a compromise on the much thornier issue of a new government. The impasse, coupled with the military's sluggish counter-offensive, underlined just how difficult a task Iraqis face as they try to keep their country from fracturing along sectarian and

ethnic lines. The military suffered a new setback in its battle with the extremist advance Monday when the top commander of the armed forces battling militants in the west was killed by a mortar strike.

The United States, which withdrew the last American troops from Iraq in 2011, and other world powers

have pressed for the quick formation of a new government, as has Iraq's top Shiite cleric, the revered Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani. They are calling for an inclusive government that will draw support among Iraq's Sunni minority away from the insurgency, led by a radical al-Qaida breakaway group called the Islamic State. □

**Syrian army tries to choke off rebels in city of Aleppo**

**BASSEM MROUE**

**DIAA HADID**

**Associated Press**

**BEIRUT (AP)** — Syrian troops advanced in and around the northern city of Aleppo on Monday, in what appears to be an attempt to lay siege to opposition-held parts of the country's largest city, activists said. The troops faced rebels stretched thin by a two-front fight against government forces and Islamic militants encroaching on opposition-held areas. If rebels are driven out of Aleppo, it would be a near-fatal blow to an uprising that began in March 2011 as largely peaceful protests against President Bashar Assad's rule, but later turned into a full-fledged civil war. Aleppo is the last large urban area that Syrian rebels hold after losing territory to government forces over the past year, and it lies close to the border with Turkey, an important friendly supply route for rebels. Raqqqa, further east, is held exclusively by Sunni extremists from the Islamic State group.

"If Aleppo falls, the Syrian revolution falls," said an Aleppo-based activist who uses the name Baraa Halabi, speaking to The Associated Press over Skype.

Aleppo, once Syria's commercial center, has been carved up into rebel- and government-controlled areas since an opposition offensive in mid-2012.

Rami Abdurrahman, who heads the Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, said Monday that reinforcements, including members of the elite Republican Guards and allies from Lebanon's Hezbollah group, recently arrived in Aleppo. □

## Egypt President defends recent price hikes

**Associated Press**

**CAIRO (AP)** — Egypt's President Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi defended Monday his recent decisions to partially lift subsidies on fuel that caused a public outcry, calling them a necessary "bitter pill" to revive his nation's ailing economy.

In a nationally televised speech, el-Sissi defended the bold move, saying that other leaders have shied away from introducing such re-

deficits and government debt to explain to the public last weekend's steep fuel price hikes, a long-awaited move to curb the country's massive subsidies program that eats nearly a quarter of the state budget.

In a half-hour-long speech, el-Sissi defended the bold move, saying that other leaders have shied away from introducing such re-

forms in fear of public upheaval. "Was there another choice? By God, no. Could we have delayed it? It was already years late," said el-Sissi, using the Egyptian Arabic vernacular.

All fuel prices went up effective Saturday by as much as 78 percent, causing panic among the public and a political outcry. Economists described the

hike as a first move toward putting the country on the path to economic reform. El-Sissi said common wisdom would have dictated that he hold off on the decision to reduce subsidies to maintain his popularity, particularly since he doesn't belong to a political party that would rally support for his economic measures. □

# Merkel brings German business leaders to China

BEIJING (AP) — German Chancellor Angela Merkel met the Chinese premier Monday and hailed ties between the two sides as she led a large business delegation on a visit to promote trade with the Asian economic giant.

Merkel met Premier Li Keqiang at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing in the morning and expressed an interest in the development of China's inland areas. Merkel, who is on her seventh visit to China as chancellor, had landed Sunday in the southwestern city of Chengdu.

"I came to understand this yesterday in Chengdu, where I felt the vitality of this western Chinese city. I saw that China's development is not only limited to coastal areas but also taking place



German Chancellor Angela Merkel, fourth left, and Chinese Premier Li Keqiang, center, join Chinese and German high school students to hold a symbolic banner for an education and language exchange program during her visit to the Temple of Heaven in Beijing, China Monday, July 7, 2014. Merkel is on a three-day visit to China.

(AP Photo/Rolex Dela Pena)

in the west," Merkel said in opening remarks, before reporters were ushered out of the room. "I'm looking forward to engaging in deep discussions." Merkel said talks between the two sides would also cover social issues and human rights. Later Monday, she would attend a meeting of the China-Germany Economic and Trade Commission and meet with President Xi Jinping, who visited Berlin in March.

In March, Xi visited Germany and with Merkel oversaw the signing of deals including agreements for automakers Daimler AG and BMW AG to deepen ties with their Chinese partners.

"China-Germany relations are at their best in history," said China's official Xinhua News Agency on Sunday, "strongly underpinned by the pragmatic cooperation between the two economic heavyweights."

It pointed out that Germany is China's largest trading partner in Europe, while China is Germany's biggest in the Asia-Pacific region.

## Pope:

# Bishops must be held accountable for abuse

FRANCES D'EMILIO  
Associated Press

VATICAN CITY (AP) — Pope Francis begged forgiveness Monday in his first meeting with Catholics sexually abused by members of the clergy and went further than any of his predecessors by vowing to hold bishops accountable for their handling of pedophile priests.

Abuse victims and their advocates have long demanded that higher-ups be made to answer for the decades-long cover-ups of rape and molestation of youngsters in a scandal that has rocked the church and dismayed its worldwide flock of 1.2 billion. The pope celebrated a private Mass with six victims — two each from Ireland, Britain and Germany — at his Vatican residence, and spent the rest of the morning listening to their accounts, one on one.

But in speaking of accountability, he made no specific mention of what countless victims and their families around the globe have waited years to hear: whether bishops and other prelates who shuffled child-molesting

priests from parish to parish or didn't inform police and prosecutors would be fired or demoted.

"All bishops must carry out their pastoral ministry with utmost care in order to help foster the protection of minors, and they will be held accountable," Francis said, delivering his homily in his native Spanish. The survivors were allowed to bring a relative or friend and an interpreter.

"Before God and his people, I express my sorrow for the sins and grave crimes of clerical sexual abuse committed against you. And I humbly ask forgiveness," Francis said.

"I beg your forgiveness, too, for the sins of omission on the part of church leaders who did not respond adequately to reports of abuse made by family members, as well as by abuse victims themselves," the pope said. "This led to even greater suffering on the part of those who were abused, and it endangered other minors who were at risk."

One of the six, Marie Kane, 43, who was abused by a

priest for three years while a teenager in Ireland, said she asked Francis to remove

an Irish cardinal, Sean Brady, from his post because of how he handled abuse allegations.

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## Quake slams Mexico, Guatemala; at least 3 dead

**GUATEMALA CITY (AP)** — A magnitude-6.9 earthquake on the Pacific Coast jolted a wide area of southern Mexico and Central America Monday, killing at least three people while damaging homes, hospitals and churches.

The U.S. Geological Survey said the quake hit at 6:23 a.m. (7:23 a.m. EDT; 11:23 GMT) on the Pacific Coast 1 mile (2 kilometers) north-northeast of Puerto Madero, near the Guatemala border. It initially calculated the magnitude at 7.1 but later lowered the figure to 6.9.

The national spokesman for local fire departments, Raul Hernandez, said at least two people died in their homes from collapsed walls in the Guatemalan town of Pati, in the border province of San Marcos, and another woman in Quetzaltenango died from a heart attack.

But Guatemalan President Otto Perez Molina said later in a press conference that the only officially confirmed death so far was of a newborn hit by a piece of false ceiling

in a San Marcos hospital. He said it wasn't clear if the woman's heart attack was earthquake related.

felt in 12 of Guatemala's 22 states. There were reports of power outages and rock slides on some roadways in

apparently suffered a partial collapse.

Classes were suspended in at least three western



Neighbors gather outside homes that collapsed during an earthquake in San Pedro, Guatemala, Monday, July 7, 2014. A magnitude-6.9 earthquake on the Pacific Coast jolted a wide area of southern Mexico and Central America Monday.

(AP Photo/Oliver de Ros)

Civil protection officials in the Mexican state of Chiapas raised the toll to two dead, and said at least a dozen people were injured by falling tiles and other debris.

Perez said the quake was

Guatemala.

Photos posted on social media sites and published by the Guatemalan newspaper Prensa Libre showed buildings with huge cracks across their facades in San Marcos, and one which

states bordering Mexico. In Chiapas, where the quake was centered, panicked people poured into the streets and the Red Cross said it was treating some frightened adults and children. □

**Fear of rebellion as Uganda's army battles gunmen**

**RODNEY MUHUMUZA**

**Associated Press**

**KAMPALA, Uganda (AP)** —

Ugandan troops have killed more than 60 suspected insurgents accused of taking part in weekend assaults on police stations and military barracks, a military official said on Monday amid ongoing clashes with gunmen in a volatile region near Uganda's border with Congo. More than 80 suspected militants are now in custody, said Lt. Ninsiima Rwemijuma, a spokesman for troops in Uganda's Rwenzori region.

Men armed with guns and crude weapons killed at least a dozen civilians, police and soldiers on Saturday — multiple attacks that appeared to target military and police installations.

The violence is the worst on Ugandan territory since the 1990s, when the government of Uganda's long-serving president faced rebellions in the west and northern parts of the country.

The attacks took place in Kasese, Ntoroko and Bundibugyo, three Ugandan districts with a history of anti-government insurgency and tensions among rival tribes competing for limited natural resources in a mountainous region of western Uganda. Bundibugyo, where the most deadly clashes happened, is a frontier district located more than 300 kilometers (about 186 miles) from Kampala, the Ugandan capital.

Military officials have recently warned that a Ugandan Islamic extremist rebel group known as ADF, which launched a violent insurgency in the area in the 1990s, is trying to regroup. □

## 63 abducted females escape extremists in Nigeria

**HARUNA**  
**MICHELLE FAUL**  
**Associated Press**

**UMAR**

**MAIDUGURI, Nigeria (AP)** — More than 60 Nigerian girls and women abducted by Islamic extremists two weeks ago have managed to escape, officials said Monday, though more than 200 girls who were kidnapped in April remain missing.

Nigerian security forces and federal government officials had denied reports of the mass abduction from three villages in the northeast state of Borno on June

22.

Chibok local government chairman Pogu Bitrus said Monday he had verified that about 60 women and girls escaped on Thursday and Friday by sending a representative who met with some of the escapees and their families at the hospital in Lassa, a town in the neighboring Damboa local government area.

Vigilante leader Abbas Gava in Maiduguri, capital of Borno state, said Sunday that vigilantes in the area told him 63 women and girls escaped Friday while their

captors were engaged in a major attack on a military barracks and police headquarters in Damboa town. Small-scale kidnappings by Boko Haram extremists had been going on for months when they drew international condemnation for the abductions of more than 200 schoolgirls from a school in Chibok town of Borno state on April 15. Some 219 of those girls still are missing.

The government and military failure to rescue them has attracted criticism at home and abroad.

Boko Haram is demanding the release of detained fighters in exchange for the girls.

Nigeria's President Goodluck Jonathan reportedly has refused to consider a prisoner swap.

Amid the stalemate, Bitrus said that attacks have increased around Chibok and that Boko Haram has taken over some villages in the area and is threatening to take over others. The Kibaku Area Development Association, a local residents' association of which he is also chairman. □

# LOCAL Aruba TODAY

## Aruban global export product Alhydran now available in local pharmacies

**PALM BEACH** - Tourists and locals love Aruba Aloe's skincare and sun care products, many of them become loyal customers once they have tried it, ordering their products online or visiting the shops once they are back on Aruba. But what most people don't know is that Aruba Aloe also produces a highly concentrated moisture regulating gel-cream called Alhydran which is used for the aftercare treatment of burn scars, surgical wounds, redness, itching, rashes after laser therapy or chemotherapy and other scar tissue.

This very effective locally produced cream has become the new standard in scar treatment in university hospitals and burn clinics worldwide. Sold in all Aruba Aloe stores, online thru [www.arubaaloe.com](http://www.arubaaloe.com) and in over 22 countries, ranging from countries in Europe to even South Korea, this unique Aruban export product is now available in local MEDIQ pharmacies starting this month. Koos Veel, Technical Director of Aruba Aloe shared the success story of Alhydran:

Aruban Wisdom

"Every Aruban knows that when they have a wound



or a burn scar that the gel of the Aloe Vera plant will relieve the burning, itching sensation and prevent scar tissue and so Arubans have been doing this for over 150 years. That's why Aruba Aloe started developing the initial Burn Balm in the sixties, the frontrunner of the Alhydran cream, which helps against burns and scarring. This product was continuously subject to more fine-tuning, assisting in this process was professor in pharmaceutical technology Prof Junginger and the University of Leiden (Netherlands), and was used to treat local patients here on Aruba since the seventies.

Crossing the Atlantic  
It wasn't until a close per-

sonal friend of mine had a serious accident in which he got heavily burned and hospitalized in the Gent University Hospital in Belgium for the treatment of his burn scars. Knowing that I had produced this cream he asked me if I could send some over for him to try out. Of course I sent it over to Belgium and the doctors there were amazed at how well this cream treated the burn scars of my friend. The doctors at the Gent clinic have continued to use this cream and have treated more than 2000 patients throughout the years, constantly working with me to upgrade the cream so that it would work on every patient.

A global product: Alhydran A pharmaceutical company visiting the Gent Clinic in the nineties, BAP Medical, saw so much potential in this cream that they asked if they could market it for us. We signed the contract and started selling successfully on a global scale under the new product name Alhydran. Nowadays Aruba Aloe is also shareholder in this company, meaning that we take this product extremely serious.

The success of this cream is partly because of the perfect circumstances that the Aloe Vera plant grows in here on Aruba with her hot and dry climate. In all research studies it is proven



that the best Aloe comes from our island. Another factor is the high concentration of Aloe Vera in this cream, up to 45% is pure Aloe Vera gel and the remaining are other high quality ingredients. Furthermore it's produced with very expensive equipment and thoroughly tested on thousands of patients, even with two double-blind studies both ending with very good results" concludes a proud Koos Veel, technical director of Aruba Aloe.

Now available on Aruba: Since the month of June Aruba Aloe has also started distributing the Alhydran cream to all MEDIQ pharmacies. Their staff has been especially trained by the Aruban Aloe professionals to inform the customers on a suitable Alhydran product for them. Botica Kibrahacha located in Superfood is one of the pharmacies selling Al-

hydran. Magdelyne Ruiz, sales clerk expressed: "We are definitely very proud to be selling Alhydran, it is made right here in Aruba and everybody knows Aruban Aloe is the best in the world. We even went to see the plantation where the aloes were cut by hand, how the gel was collected, so we know how this cream is made from A until Z. In our pharmacy we will showcase this cream with the Aloe Vera plant next to it, so that it becomes immediately recognizable for customers to see that this is a locally produced product."

For more information on Alhydran, please contact E-commerce Marketing Manager Jessica Posner at Aruba Aloe Balm N.V. T: +297 588 3222 or Email to: [jessica@arubaaloe.com](mailto:jessica@arubaaloe.com). Websites: [www.ArubaAloe.com](http://www.ArubaAloe.com) <http://www.alhydran.nl>



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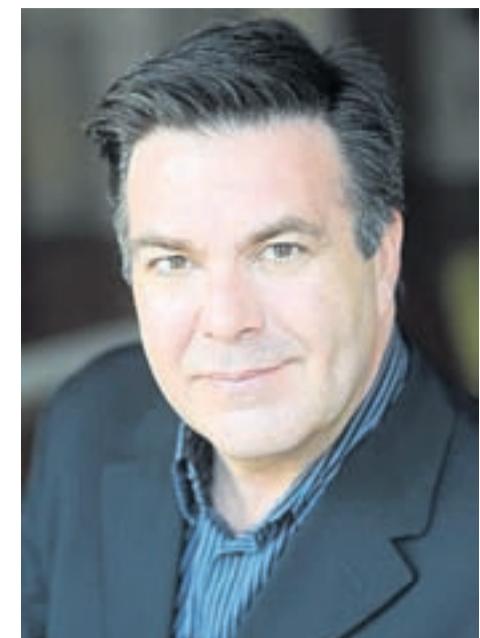
American comedy stars perform in a phenomenal show at the Marriott Resort and Stellaris Casino from now until this Friday, July 11th!

**PALM BEACH** - The Aruba Marriott Resort and Stellaris Casino in the High Rise Area has been presenting top entertainment these past several weeks, a welcome addition to the island.

This week, "Aruba Ray's Comedy Show" wraps up its incredibly successful run with top US comedians from the Letterman show, the Tonight Show, and HBO. These final shows will be on Wednesday July 9th, Thursday July 10th, and Friday July 11th.

The shows start at 830pm. Doors open at 8pm. Tickets can be purchased at any De Palm desk, or in the Marriott lobby, or ask your concierge for assistance. You should purchase tickets in advance, ideally before 7pm.

Appearing these last few days will be Kevin Meaney!



Kevin has appeared multiple times on the Tonight Show with both Johnny Carson and Jay Leno. Kevin has also done two HBO specials, starred as Uncle Buck on the TV show Uncle Buck on CBS, was in the movie Big, and starred on Broadway in the hit show Hairspray. Also performing is Joe List, who appeared on the David Letterman Show just two weeks ago. Joe has also been on Comedy Central, and the hit NBC show Last Comic Standing.

Ray Ellin will be hosting the shows. Known as "Aruba Ray" because of his passion for Aruba, Ray has been coming to Aruba every month for the past three years, and produces and hosts these fantastic comedy shows on the island.

Ray is one of New York's top performers and producers, and has produced over 100 shows here in Aruba! They have all had the highest level of talent, from New York and Los Angeles. Ray himself has appeared on many television programs; he is the host of the new Gong Show Live, a resurrection of the classic 70's television show. He also hosted the popular talk show Late Net, and hosted the television shows The

Movie Loft, Brain Fuel, and New York Now. He also produced and directed the very successful film The Latin Legends of Comedy, distributed by 20th Century Fox.

The comedy show is a great deal. The Comedy Show Tickets are \$34... and each ticket comes with a few bonuses:

Each Comedy Ticket gives each audience member \$10 in FREE Slot Play in the Stellaris Casino at the Marriott.

Each person gets a FREE Welcome Drink at the show, and there is no drink minimum.

Each Comedy Ticket will also provide a 20% discount to the Aruba La Vista buffet.

AND audience members can purchase an optional premium four hour open bar for only \$20! The Premium open bar continues after the show in the casino until MIDNIGHT. Incredible. The showroom is comfortable, but seating is first come first serve! So you should try to arrive early enough.

And while these shows are not vulgar, they are intended for an adult audience.

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# RBC Art Rules Aruba 5 kicks off at Cas di Cultura!

ORANJESTAD - RBC Royal Bank's Art Rules Aruba Kicked off in full capacity with a record number of applicants, 270, on Saturday, confirming local youth love for Arts Education!

In 2010, The Pancake Gallery Foundation, with twin sisters Ira and Ayra Kip at the helm, started offering an educational Art program during the summer months. That same program, Art Rules Aruba is now celebrating its 5th anniversary.

Over the course of the last four years, the program has seen more than 600 young aspiring artists, all local teenagers between the ages of 13 and 26, who possess a passion for the Arts and the will to develop personal talents. Since 2010, Art Rules Aruba has brought more than 54 international artists and teachers from around the world to the Island to teach art in several disciplines. Starting with 6 disciplines 5 years ago, Art Rules has since grown into offering 9 art disciplines including



Dance, Theater, Creative Media, Fashion, DJ, Rap & Poetry, Street Art, Music & Performance and Culinary Arts. In celebration of the lustrum, a new workshop titled "Art Rules Junior" was added to the program specifically offered to the 9 to 12 year olds.

Here to present the 1st liberal arts program on the island, offering the opportunity to experience several disciplines over the course of the program, Art Rule Aruba introduced all new and returning teachers to students at a street happening on Saturday evening.

Art Rules Aruba kicked off on July 5th at Cas Di Cultura

with an outdoor block party, and a press conference, with brass band music, and the live performance of the Soul Sisters, a group of talented local teens. The Mexican truck pulled up to feed students, parents and teachers, with delicious tacos, and a giant cake donated by Caribbean Bakery Supplies served as dessert, cut by banker Pierre Raffini and the Kip sisters. Sponsors such as RBC Bank, the Marriott Aruba Resort & Stellaris Casino, Hertz Rent a Car, and others, were in the proud crowd, welcoming Art Rules Aruba back to the island. Art Rules Aruba will close with a "Tasting Com-



petition" in collaboration with Aruba Marriott on July 17th introduced by the Culinary Arts Students, followed by the final showcase of all students at Cas di Cultura on July 18th. Tickets for the final showcase will be available from July 8th at Cas di Cultura. After the closing of the program, The Pancake Gallery will make a swift transition to Curaçao as it will be debuting Art Rules Curaçao on July 21st. This is the first step in expanding the program in the Caribbean re-

gion, which has become the goal for its founders with the aim of advancing art education everywhere, including Surinam, for a possible Art Rules Paramaribo in the near future.

For more information on Art Rules, its past, present and future updates, visit [www.artrulesaruba.com](http://www.artrulesaruba.com) or [www.artrulescuracao.com](http://www.artrulescuracao.com) or follow its social platforms via [@artrulesU](http://www.facebook.com/artrulesaruba) on twitter and [@artrulesflicks](http://www.instagram.com) on instagram.

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bar, Holiday Inn Desk and at the Concierge & Pelican Pier desk located between Holiday Inn hotel & Playa Linda Resort.

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# SPORTS

## Aruba TODAY



In this Jan. 30, 2014 photo, NFL senior vice president Anastasia Danias speaks during a news conference at the NFL Super Bowl XLVIII media center in New York.

Associated Press

### Lawyers: Judge approves NFL concussion settlement

MARYCLAIRE DALE  
Associated Press

A federal judge on Monday granted preliminary approval to a landmark deal that would compensate thousands of former NFL players for concussion-related claims.

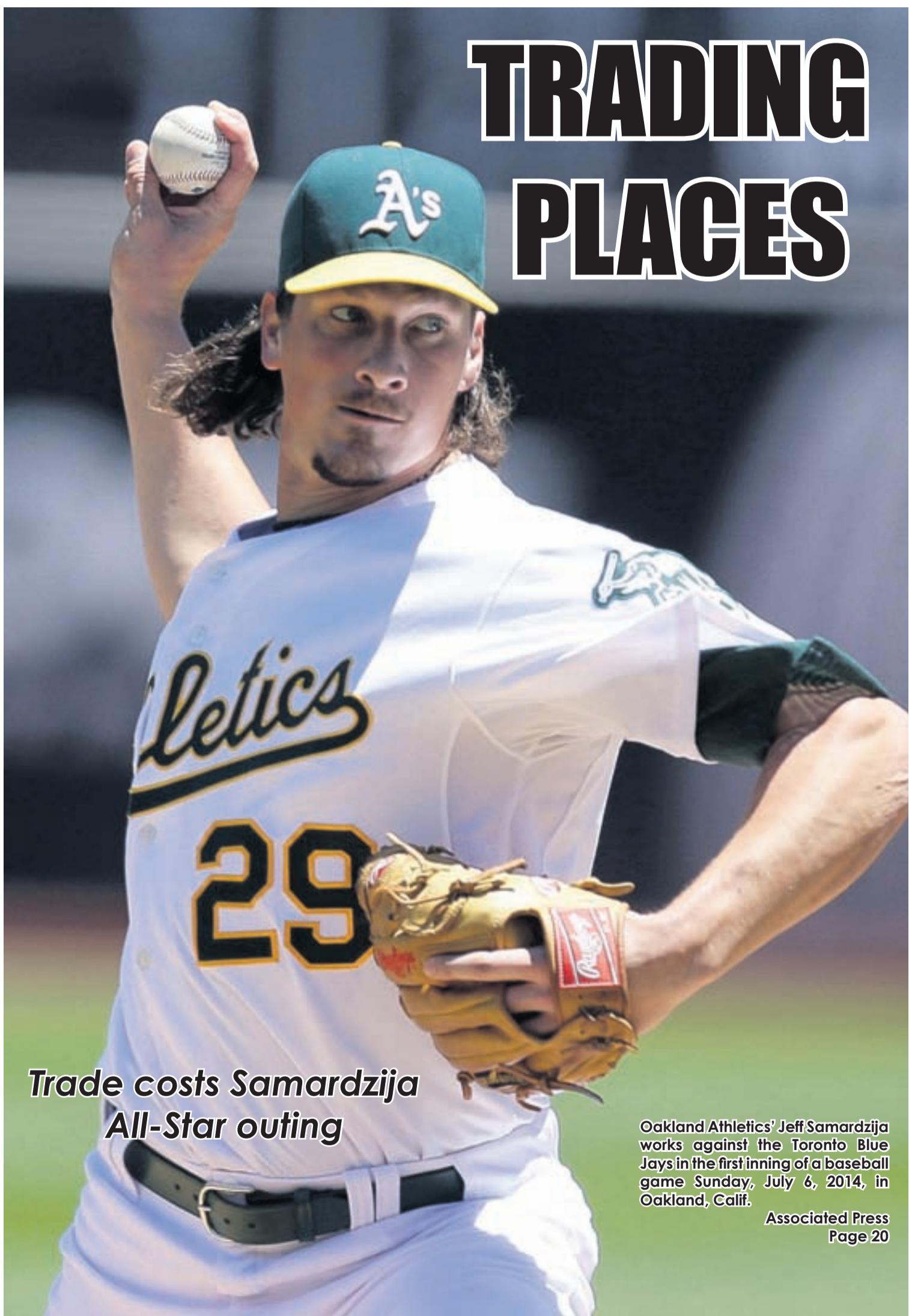
The ruling by U.S. District Judge Anita Brody in Philadelphia came about two weeks after the NFL agreed to remove a \$675 million cap on damages. Brody had previously questioned whether that would be enough money to pay all claims.

"A class action settlement that offers prompt relief is superior to the likely alternative — years of expensive, difficult, and uncertain litigation, with no assurance of recovery, while retired players' physical and mental conditions continue to deteriorate," Brody wrote. More than 4,500 former players have filed suit, some accusing the league of fraud for its handling of concussions.

Continued on Page 18



# TRADING PLACES



**Trade costs Samardzija  
All-Star outing**

Oakland Athletics' Jeff Samardzija works against the Toronto Blue Jays in the first inning of a baseball game Sunday, July 6, 2014, in Oakland, Calif.

Associated Press  
Page 20

# Djokovic replaces Nadal at No. 1 after Wimbledon

HOWARD FENDRICH

AP Tennis Writer

**LONDON (AP)** — Wimbledon champion Novak Djokovic replaced Rafael Nadal at No. 1 in the ATP rankings Monday, while runner-up Roger Federer rose one spot to No. 3.

"It means a lot at this stage of my career," said Djokovic, who was last in the top spot nine months ago.

This is his 102nd week atop the men's rankings overall, the eighth most in history.

In all, there were eight changes in the top 10 a day after Djokovic beat Federer 6-7 (7), 6-4, 7-6 (4), 5-7, 6-4 for his second championship at the All England Club and seventh Grand Slam title.

The 27-year-old Serb first reached No. 1 after earning the 2011 Wimbledon trophy.

He's also the first man to qualify for the 2014 season-ending ATP World Tour Finals, earning a berth for the eighth consecutive year. Djokovic has won that event three times, including in 2012 and 2013. Andy Murray dropped five



**Novak Djokovic of Serbia holds the trophy after defeating Roger Federer of Switzerland in the men's singles final at the All England Lawn Tennis Championships in Wimbledon, London, Sunday July 6, 2014.**

Associated Press

ranking spots to No. 10 on Monday by losing in the quarterfinals a year after becoming the first British man since 1936 to win Wimbledon.

Federer, who was bidding for a record eighth title at the grass-court major tournament, swapped places with Swiss countryman Stan Wawrinka, the Australian Open champion, who slid to No. 4.

The two losing Wimbledon semifinalists moved up to new career highs after getting to the final four at a major tournament for the first time: Milos Raonic of Canada is No. 6, and Grigor Dimitrov of Bulgaria is No. 9. Raonic had been No. 9 before Wimbledon, while Dimitrov was at No. 13. The biggest jump in the top 100 was made by Nick Kyrgios, the 19-year-old Aus-

tralian who beat Nadal in the fourth round last week. Kyrgios went from 144th to a career-best 66th, a 78-place rise.

In the WTA rankings, Petra Kvitova's second Wimbledon title allowed her to improve two places to No. 4. The woman she beat 6-3, 6-0 in Saturday's final, 20-year-old Eugenie Bouchard, reached the

top 10 for the first time at No. 7.

Bouchard, up from No. 13, is the highest-ranked Canadian in WTA history. She is also the first player from her country to reach a Grand Slam singles final.

The top three places did not change, with Serena Williams at No. 1, Li Na at No. 2, and Simona Halep at No. 3. □

## CONCUSSION

Continued from Previous Page

They include former Dallas Cowboys running back Tony Dorsett and Super Bowl-winning Chicago Bears quarterback Jim McMahon, who suffers from dementia.

The settlement is designed to last at least 65 years and give \$1 million or more to retirees who develop Lou Gehrig's disease and other profound neurological problems.

"This is an extraordinary settlement for retired NFL players and their families — from those who suffer with neuro-cognitive illnesses today, to those who are currently healthy but fear they may develop symptoms decades into the future," plaintiffs' attorneys Sol Weiss and Christopher Seeger said in a statement. NFL senior vice president Anastasia Dianas said in a statement that the league was "grateful to Judge Brody for her guidance and her thoughtful analysis of the issues as reflected in the comprehensive opinion she issued today."

The original settlement included \$675 million for compensatory claims for players with neurological symptoms, \$75 million for baseline testing and \$10 million for medical research and education. The NFL would also pay an additional \$112 million to the players' lawyers, for a total payout of more than \$870 million.

The revised settlement eliminates the cap on overall damage claims but retains a payout formula for individual retirees that

considers their age and illness. A young retiree with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, or Lou Gehrig's disease, would receive \$5 million, a 50-year-old with Alzheimer's disease would get \$1.6 million and an 80-year-old with early dementia would get \$25,000.

Even with the cap removed, both sides said they believe the NFL will spend no more than about \$675 million on damage claims by ex-players.

Critics of the deal have said the league, with annual revenues approaching \$10 billion, was getting off lightly. They could raise objections at a fairness hearing scheduled for Nov. 19, and ultimately opt out of the settlement.

However, they would then face the risk of a protracted legal fight, and would have to prove any injuries were caused by NFL concussions and not any suffered in youth or college sports. The proposed NFL settlement had originally barred claimants from seeking a separate settlement against U.S. college sports governing body NCAA, but that clause has been removed. A separate lawsuit is pending against the NCAA in Illinois.

"I think the judge has forced them to make improvements," said University of Richmond law professor Carl Tobias, who teaches product liability law. "I think she always felt she had an obligation to the players, to be sure they were getting a fair deal ... given the treatment to date." □

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## James, Cavs owner could mend differences, reunite

**TOM WITHERS**

AP Sports Writer

**CLEVELAND (AP)** — There was no eye contact, nothing to indicate any reconciliation. The breakup of LeBron James and Cavaliers owner Dan Gilbert was beyond bitter.

But now, as James considers a return to the team he abandoned four years ago with an entire region breathlessly awaiting a homecoming it couldn't imagine in its wildest dreams, it appears there has been some healing between the NBA superstar and his former boss.

Once aligned as basketball partners, James and Gilbert could barely stand the sight of each other during Miami's games in Cleveland the past four years. It was an intense standoff, awkward and seemingly irreparable.

Time may have fixed their fractured relationship.

Most of the rest of the city has already forgiven James.

Cleveland, without a major sports championship to celebrate in almost 50 years, is praying for a reunion. On Sunday, Cavs fans flocked to social media to feverishly track one of Gilbert's private jets as it flew to Fort Lauderdale, Florida, where the plane's occupants dodged reporters and TV cameras with some deception.

It's not known if Gilbert



In this July 11, 2010 file photo, A 10-story banner of former Cleveland Cavaliers NBA basketball star LeBron James is taken down by workers in downtown Cleveland, Ohio.

Associated Press

was on the jet — or if the trip was even NBA-related — but that didn't douse the free-agency firestorm. As James' decision nears, there's a renewed hope the prodigal son will come home.

But in the backdrop looms the James-Gilbert relationship.

James is giving serious thought to returning to Cleveland, to going home and making amends with the city for the one misstep in an otherwise impeccable NBA career. Tuesday is the four-year anniversary of announcing he was "taking my talents to South Beach" and the city is once again

on hold. James is set to meet with Heat president Pat Riley, who was able to lure the four-time league MVP to Miami in 2010 but could be running out of time to convince him to stay.

Two people familiar with the situation said James will meet with Riley "in the next two or three days." The people spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because neither the team nor James announced their plans publicly.

James holds all the cards. It's his choice.

It was the same four years ago, when James ended

his seven-year run in Cleveland by linking with All-Stars Dwyane Wade and Chris Bosh. The "Big 3" went on to win two titles and went to four straight NBA finals, getting crushed by San Antonio this year.

The trio could be splitting up. Wade and Bosh have been waiting to see what James will do, and it's possible he's going to go it alone.

On July 8, 2010, "The Decision" played out in a national TV spectacle and was a blow to the collective psyche of Cleveland. Fans here couldn't understand why James, Akron born and bred, would in-

tentionally embarrass the people who say they loved him most.

In those early hours afterward, some Cleveland fans burned his No. 23 jersey in streets near where his larger-than-life figure towered on a building billboard. It was an ugly scene.

Gilbert added fuel to the inferno.

Cleveland's dynamic owner, never afraid to offer his opinion, wrote a letter to Cleveland fans, condemning James for a "shameful display of selfishness and betrayal by one of our very own." Gilbert called James "our former hero" and the "self-declared former King."

Gilbert also guaranteed the Cavs would win a title before James, a boast he later swallowed when James won his first title in his second year in Miami while his team went 40-108 in two seasons without him.

Gilbert further ripped James by telling the AP in a phone call that he believed the two-time MVP quit during the playoffs against Boston. "It's not about him leaving," Gilbert said. "It's the disrespect. It's time for people to hold these athletes accountable for their actions. Is this the way you raise your children? I've been holding this all in for a long time."

He let it all out, and it caused a mammoth rift with James. □

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# Trade costs Samardzija chance for All-Star outing

RONALD BLUM  
AP Sports Writer

**NEW YORK (AP)**—The trade that made Jeff Samardzija a postseason contender cost him a chance to pitch in his first All-Star game. A day after Samardzija traded from the Chicago Cubs to Oakland, a big league-high six Athletics were picked Sunday for the All-Star game at Target Field in Minnesota on July 15.

That doesn't include Samardzija, selected as a National League All-Star. Major League Baseball said he is ineligible to play because of the league switch. The 29-year-old right-hander, who was 2-7 with a 2.83 ERA and 103 strikeouts for the Cubs, won his American League debut Sunday when he allowed one run

in seven innings for a 4-2 victory over Toronto. He will be introduced with the NL players before the All-Star game; still to be decided is whether he wears a Cubs or A's uniform — or a generic NL jersey.

"I won't get to pitch, which is a bummer, but that's all right," Samardzija said. "I'll just go through whatever ceremonies they have and just jump over to the AL dugout with an NL jersey on and have some fun with the six other dudes we have over there, which is exciting."

Oakland, with the best record in the majors, has its most All-Stars since 1975: left-handers Sean Doolittle and Scott Kazmir; catcher Derek Norris; first baseman Brandon Moss; third baseman Josh Donaldson;

and outfielder Yoenis Cespedes.

"It's really cool," A's manager Bob Melvin said. "We were hoping for something like this."

Yankees shortstop Derek Jeter, playing his 20th and final season, was chosen for his 14th All-Star team and will start for the ninth time. He gets reunited with Seattle second baseman Robinson Cano, his former double-play partner in New York.

Mariano Rivera, the retiring Yankees reliever, was the center of attention at last year's All-Star game when the Mets hosted in Citi Field. Jeter could be in the spotlight this year.

"All-Star game was in New York last year. It's a little bit different," Jeter said. "I don't go into it with any



Oakland Athletics' Jeff Samardzija works against the Toronto Blue Jays in the first inning of a baseball game Sunday, July 6, 2014, in Oakland, Calif.

Associated Press

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expectations. Just trying to enjoy myself and have fun with whoever is here."

Among the big names bypassed entirely were slugger David Ortiz and closer Koji Uehara from World Series champion Boston, San Francisco catcher Buster Posey, and Dodgers pitcher Josh Beckett.

"I had a chance to talk with David, and he felt the four days of rest might be more advantageous to him," said Boston skipper John Farrell, the AL manager. "He was a pro about it. He spoke his mind and had a lot of input in the decisions."

Also elected by fans to start for the AL were Detroit first baseman Miguel Cabrera, Donaldson, and outfielders Jose Bautista of Toronto, Adam Jones of Baltimore and Mike Trout of the Los Angeles Angels. Baltimore's Matt Wieters, sidelined by season-ending elbow surgery on June 17, was elected to start at catcher and will be replaced by Kansas City's Salvador Perez.

Orioles bopper Nelson Cruz, tied for the major league home run lead with 27, was voted in by fans

at designated hitter after serving a 50-game suspension last year for violating baseball's drug agreement.

Elected to the NL starting lineup were Arizona first baseman Paul Goldschmidt, Philadelphia second baseman Chase Utley, Colorado shortstop Troy Tulowitzki, Milwaukee third baseman Aramis Ramirez and St. Louis catcher Yadier Molina along with outfielders Carlos Gomez of Milwaukee, Andrew McCutchen of Pittsburgh and Yasiel Puig of the Los Angeles Dodgers.

Yankees pitcher Masahiro Tanaka and Chicago White Sox first baseman Jose Abreu, a pair of rookies off to superlative starts, were among 26 first-time All-Stars and 24 foreign-born players.

Surprise selections included Pittsburgh utilityman Josh Harrison and left-hander Tony Watson, and St. Louis reliever Pat Neshek, who is from Minnesota and began his career with the hometown Twins.

Milwaukee closer Francisco Rodriguez made his fifth All-Star team, his first since 2009.



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# Sir Marcel? Kittel wins last UK stage of Tour

JAMEY KEATEN  
Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — At this point, the top Tour de France sprint star might be called Sir Marcel.

Marcel Kittel, the German with a French first name, led a bunch sprint to win Monday's Stage 3 with a finish on the doorstep of Queen Elizabeth's Buckingham Palace. Two days earlier, he courted royal attention as Prince William and Kate saw him win Stage 1 in Yorkshire in another sprint.

The stage wrapped up the English debut to this 101st Tour edition, a rousing success among cycling-crazed British fans. Riders hopped on planes and bid "au revoir" to the UK before flying across the English Channel onto the race's home turf.

Rain in the City of London doused riders at the end of the 155-kilometer (96-mile) ride from the university town of Cambridge to

a dramatic finish past landmarks Big Ben and Westminster.

Italy's Vincenzo Nibali retained the overall leader's yellow jersey with a 2-second lead over the most likely contenders to win the three-week race in Paris on July 27.

Kittel, led out perfectly by Giant-Shimano teammates, made it look easy as he sped down a final wide approach on The Mall with Buckingham Palace behind him. Peter Sagan of Slovakia was second and Australia's Mark Renshaw was third. "I'm really, really happy I could win in front of Buckingham Palace," said Kittel, who won four Tour stages last year. "It was one of the greatest finishes I've ever seen in front of this great scenery."

FIRST PARIS, NOW LONDON The hulking German made it a tale of two cities. He added London glory to his



Germany's sprinter Marcel Kittel, center, sprints towards the finish line to win the third stage of the Tour de France cycling race over 155 kilometers (96.3 miles) with start in Cambridge and finish in London, England, Monday, July 7, 2014.

Associated Press

record after also winning on the Champs-Elysees in Paris, in the Tour finale last year. His job in the sprints got a lot easier after Britain's Mark Cavendish

pulled out of the race after injuring his shoulder in a crash in Saturday's Stage 1. "It's one big opponent that is not in the race anymore," Kittel said. "Of course, that changes things for me, but also for the team."

Kittel is no threat for the yellow jersey. Like many sprinters, he struggles on climbs and fell nearly 20 minutes behind Nibali in the overall standings in an up-and-down ride on Sunday through the hills and dales of Yorkshire.

Nibali's biggest challengers for the prized leader's shirt remain title-holder Chris Froome of Britain and Spain's Alberto Contador, who finished with the same time as the Italian and Kittel in an 84-rider bunch.

On Monday, the pack cruised nervously and let two breakaway riders go free on Monday. The duo was caught with about 6 kilometers (4 miles) left.

EUROPEAN UNITY AMONG FANS?

Tour officials estimated fans made nearly 5 million individual visits — some may have attended more than one stage — to the route in the first three stages. In signs of cross-Channel comity, Tour chief Christian Prudhomme took English lessons before the race; Britons waved both French tricolors and their beloved Union Jacks.

But the teeming curbs, sidewalks and roadsides again caused trouble for the riders. With about 30 kilometers (19 miles) left, 2010 Tour winner Andy Schleck of Luxembourg was among riders who crashed briefly, and French TV showed a fan on the ground. Schleck, who gingerly returned to the race, said he didn't hit a spectator.

"I guess it was my own fault," said Schleck, who collided with another rider and hurtled over his handlebars.

## WNBA Capsules

# Mercury beat Sparks 94-89 for 7th straight victory

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Diana Taurasi scored a season-high 32 points, including season-best seven 3-pointers, as the Phoenix Mercury beat the Los Angeles Sparks 94-89 for their seventh straight victory Sunday, equaling a franchise record.

Penny Taylor hit a go-ahead 3-pointer with 1:18 to play, giving the Mercury a 90-89 lead. They got the ball back on a turnover by Kristi Toliver. Taurasi hit a 3-pointer while being close-

ly guarded with 8 seconds left for a 93-89 lead, ensuring the Mercury's longest winning streak since August 2006 and the longest in the WNBA this season. Taylor added 17 points, Candice Dupree and Brittney Griner had 15 points each, and DeWanna Bonner had 11 points and eight rebounds for Phoenix (13-3).

Candace Parker scored 10 of her 27 points in the fourth, when the Sparks (7-10) trailed by six to start and fought back to lead by four

twice before losing. Toliver added 26 points, including five 3-pointers. They fell to 3-6 at Staples Center.

LIBERTY 87, LYNX 80

NEW YORK (AP) — Tina Charles scored a career-high 32 points to lead New York past Maya Moore and Minnesota.

Charles also had 10 rebounds to help New York improve to 7-11.

Moore finished with 25 points to lead the Lynx (13-6).



U.S. Tyson Gay, left, on his way to win the 100m men's race, ahead of Richard Thompson, right, from Trinidad and Tobago, during the Athletics Montreuil meeting at the Jean Delbert stadium, in Montreuil, east of Paris, France, Monday July 7, 2014. Tyson Gay clocked 10.04.

Associated Press

## Gay beats Thompson at the Montreuil

TRUNG LATIEULE  
Associated Press

**PARIS (AP)** — Former world champion Tyson Gay ran 10.04 seconds in pouring rain to win the 100 meters at the Montreuil meeting on Monday.

Gay crossed the finish line 0.12 clear of 2008 Olympic runner-up Richard Thompson with a 0.5-meter headwind.

"I definitely want to get to 9.8-9.7 shape," Gay said. "It may take a couple more races to get down there."

The American sprinter made his return from a one-year doping ban last week, finishing second in 9.93 behind Justin Gatlin at the Athletissima meeting in Switzerland.

"I felt better today than I did in Lausanne," Gay said. "My start was better in Lausanne, but here I felt better in the race."

Gay, the 2007 world champion, tested positive last year for an anabolic steroid. He cooperated with the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency's investigation to have his doping suspension reduced to one year.

"It was tough last year, but I didn't take off the training," Gay said. "I continued to train and work through ups and downs of last year. I managed to make it through."

Gay is the second fastest

sprinter in the 100 behind Usain Bolt. He said his doping suspension was a learning experience.

"I'm learning to be more responsible," Gay said. "As an athlete, you have to be responsible for your supplements."

He plans to race at least until the Rio Games in 2016. "That's motivation for me," Gay said. "That's my goal. I'm looking forward to that."

Michelle-Lee Ahye, who is the best performer in the women's 100 this year, overcame a poor start to beat Carrie Russell in 11.32, while Olympic champion Sanya Richards-Ross pulled away in the final straight to win the 400 in 51.12.

"I think the last time I ran in weather like this is probably Zurich 2005," Richards-Ross said. "I tried to block it out, but it's really hard to get going really fast, especially the first 50. A little bit more cautious. I do want to have a successful season, so I don't want to risk an injury."

Hansle Parchment, who set a year-leading 12.94 in the 110 hurdles last week in Paris, edged Orlando Ortega in 13.33.

Among the surprises of the meet, world runner-up Tony McQuay finished third in the 400, more than a second behind Yousef Masrahi, who won in 44.55.

# Real Madrid great Di Stefano dies at age 88

HAROLD HECKLE

Associated Press

**MADRID (AP)** — Alfredo Di Stefano, the player Real Madrid has hailed as the most important component in its mid-20th century ascent to becoming a global football powerhouse, has died. He was 88.

Real Madrid said in a statement that Di Stefano, its honorary president, died on Monday afternoon at Gregorio Maranon hospital, two days after a heart attack.

Di Stefano turned 88 on Friday. The following day, he had a heart attack on a street near Madrid's Santiago Bernabeu Stadium and spent the following days in the hospital.

Renowned for his speed, versatility and strategic grasp of the game, he helped Madrid attain five straight European Champions Cups and was voted European player of the year in 1957 and '59.

In a career spanning five clubs in three countries — Argentina, Colombia and Spain — from 1945-1966, Di Stefano scored 789 goals in 1,090 matches. In the process he claimed top-scorer status once in the Argentine league, twice in Colombia's league and five times in Spain.

Only Raul Gonzalez has scored more goals for Real Madrid than Di Stefano, who is often recognized as the club's first "galactico." However, as FIFA acknowledges on its official website, "statistics will show that Alfredo Di Stefano is one of the world's greatest ever goal scorers, but the bare facts only tell part of the story."

FIFA president Sepp Blatter said Di Stefano "was my favorite player."

French great Michel Platini, now president of the football's European governing body, said Di Stefano was "superb technically, possessed outstanding speed, and was a splendid goal scorer."



In this Nov. 13, 2009 file photo, former soccer player and honorary president of Real Madrid, Alfredo Di Stefano, right, receives a Spanish soccer shirt while being applauded by the Argentine ambassador to Spain, Carlos Bettini, during a homage to Di Stefano for his contribution to sport, at the Argentine Embassy in Madrid.

Associated Press

"Together with his gifted teammates, he helped invent modern football."

Those who Di Stefano recall a straight-talking character who believed success on the field came through physical effort and dedication.

"I don't want to be idolized, I just want to play. And to do that you have to run and sweat," he said. His modesty in the face of overwhelming sporting success won him the admiration of many.

"I think he was one of the greatest, if not the greatest, football player ever," England great Bobby Charlton said.

Born July 4, 1926, in the Barracas suburb of Buenos Aires, near the port where British sailors introduced football to Argentina, Di Stefano learned the game in what he called "the academy of the streets."

"In our neighborhood we used to hold major football sessions that went on until it got dark, with everyone playing against each other,"

he said.

"Pope Francis and I went to the same school," Di Stefano said when Jorge Mario Bergoglio was elected pontiff, adding the two likely played together as children.

Di Stefano's father, Alfredo, the son of an immigrant from the Italian island of Capri, was a loyal fan of River Plate. De Stefano's mother, Eulalia Laulhe Gilmont, was of French and Irish ancestry.

Having trialed successfully for River Plate, he turned professional in 1945, joining Colombia's Millonarios six years later. He won six league titles for the two clubs.

His turn of speed soon had fans chanting, "Help, here comes the jet-propelled 'blonde arrow,'" ("Saeta Rubia," in Spanish) a nickname Di Stefano retained all his life.

He played in Spain for the first time in 1952 and dazzled the crowd at a tournament commemorating Real Madrid's 50th anniversary, a fateful encounter.

## Independent Music Labels and Young Artists Offer Streaming, on Their Terms

By JONAH BROMWICH

Richard Laing, Sub Pop's director of sales, sees the partnership with Drip.fm as a way to capture some of the intense brand loyalty the label engendered in the CD-and-cassette era of the early 1990s.

The rise of streaming music services like Pandora, Spotify and Beats Music has been a boon for listeners, serving up songs for a modest monthly fee or, with ads, free. But their effect on artists, especially those with smaller audiences, has been less positive.

But rather than fight what looks like an inexorable shift in how consumers listen to music, some independent record labels and their artists are embracing the streaming revolution — but on their own terms.

Last month, Sub Pop Records, an independent label that introduced artists including Nirvana and the Shins, announced a partnership with Drip.fm, a subscription streaming and download service. Fans who sign up for the Sub Pop feed on Drip.fm



Richard Laing, Sub Pop's director of sales, sees the partnership with Drip.fm as a way to capture some of the intense brand loyalty the label engendered in the CD-and-cassette era of the early 1990s.

New York Times

will pay \$10 a month in exchange for albums, singles and special exclusives from the label.

Sub Pop is among the most prominent indie labels experimenting with subscription models that connect them directly to their fans. Labels like Fool's Gold, Jagjaguwar and Secretly Canadian have signed on

with the two-year-old Drip.fm in an effort to attract fans with exclusive music, a sense of community and an intimate connection with bands and artists. Other younger, digitally savvy musicians are starting their own services to appeal directly to their fans, like Nicolas Jaar's Other People and Ryan Hemsworth's

Secret Songs.

Richard Laing, Sub Pop's director of sales, sees the partnership with Drip.fm as a way to capture some of the same intense brand loyalty the label engendered in the CD-and-cassette era of the early 1990s. "Instead of people seeking out recommendations from any kind of algorithm, they're seeking that out from our label and what we're looking to put out," he said.

With their limited musical offerings, Drip.fm and its ilk are niche products unlikely to appeal to a wide audience. But they are giving indie labels a chance to cultivate and monetize their most loyal fans amid the growing number of streaming services. And the ability to sell their music has become an increasing challenge. Digital downloads declined nearly 12 percent in the first half of this year compared with the first half of 2013.

"That's what labels like ours were built on," Mr. Laing said. "People bought Sub Pop records and hopefully still do based on seeing the label. So hopefully this is a digital equivalent of that." Streaming services make sense for mainstream artists like Rihanna and Katy Perry, who are popular enough to generate substantial revenue from the royalties they make from streaming (usually a frac-

tion of a cent every time a song is played).

But for independent artists, the economics of streaming is a tougher proposition. Consider Mr. Jaar, who has developed a small yet loyal following since the release of his 2011 debut album, "Space Is Only Noise." As an electronic artist who experiments with what could roughly be called "psychedelic future jazz," he lacks mainstream appeal and cannot rely on the masses to stream his music over and over again.

"No musician I know is making their living from selling their music," Mr. Jaar said. "Everyone's making their living from touring and playing shows."

Last August, Mr. Jaar started Other People, a subscription service that distributes his music and that of friends and collaborators. Subscribers pay \$5 a month or \$50 a year for a weekly offering of songs, all of which can be downloaded through the service's website. The venture started paying for itself within six months, Mr. Jaar said.

"The truth is that touring can be really bad for making music, bad for the creative process," he said. "When I started Other People, I was really trying to find a way to have a self-sustainable label so I don't have to be touring all the time."

Even as it does little for their earnings, indie labels see some benefits from the large streaming services, as they solve the distribution and audience access problems that have historically hindered them. But ultimately, Spotify and the other platforms that make virtually all the music in the world available don't foster the obsessive music fan culture that nurtures indie labels.

"Spotify, the YouTube service, the Beats service, that's like going to a big grocery store, and you can find any kind of food you like," Mr. Jaar said. "But for me personally, I prefer inviting someone over to my house and cooking for them."

## New T.S.A. Rules for Electronics on Flights Bound for U.S.

By RON NIXON

MICHAEL S. SCHMIDT

**WASHINGTON** — In response to intelligence reports about plots being hatched by Al Qaeda's affiliate in Yemen, the United States has, for the first time, asked officials at more than a dozen foreign airports to confiscate from passengers any electronic devices that cannot be turned on, American officials said on Monday.

The reports indicate that the terrorist group, Al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula, was trying to disguise explosives in devices like cellphones after repeated failed attempts to bring down an American airliner. Its chief bomb maker has created several undetectable explosives in recent years that have led the United States to alter screening procedures.

"Aviation remains an attractive target to global terrorists, who are consistently looking for ways to circumvent our aviation security measures," said one senior American official who did not want to be quoted by name discussing national security measures.

The United States does not handle the passenger screening on American-bound flights from overseas. But foreign airports have to meet a series of requirements from the Department of Homeland Security and the Transportation Security Administration in checking such passengers before they board.

The new measures apply to some airports in Europe, the Middle East and Africa. Passengers will have to turn on the electronic devices while being screened by security personnel to prove

that the devices are harmless, the T.S.A. said Sunday. The fear is that unresponsive phones have been hollowed out and filled with explosives. It is considered next to impossible to detonate such devices at the checkpoints because they require external triggering mechanisms.

If an initial attempt fails to power up a device, passengers will be allowed to use a charger. If that fails, the devices will be confiscated. The T.S.A. said similar screening might be extended to other electronic devices like laptops and tablets. Some countries may also add security measures of their own.

The T.S.A. did not say how long the new policy would remain in place, nor would it specify the countries or airports that would be affected.

# Stocks slip, pulling Dow back near 17,000

**KEN SWEET**

**AP Markets Writer**

**NEW YORK (AP)** — After pushing stocks to records last week, investors turned cautious on Monday ahead of a batch of corporate earnings reports.

The Dow Jones industrial average ended almost 50 points lower after closing above 17,000 for the first time last week. Investors moved money into stocks traditionally thought of as safer than the broader market: utilities, telecommunication companies and consumer staples such as soft drinks and detergent.

Stocks that depend the most on a growing economy were among the biggest decliners, including small companies, consumer discretionary names, materials and industrial stocks.

"All eyes have turned to earnings," said Joe Tanius, global market strategist with J.P. Morgan Funds. There's a lot riding on this quarter's earnings season.

Investors largely believe the weather had an unusually large impact on the U.S. economy in the first three months of year, and that economic activity

the weather for their disappointing first quarter results. Secondly, stocks are trading at all-time highs and investors will need Corporate America to deliver on prof-

recent weeks, stocks are not cheap, but we believe they can climb modestly higher in the second half (of the year) amid continued economic improvement,"

investors.

The Dow Jones industrial average lost 44.05 points, or 0.3 percent, to 17,024.21. The Standard & Poor's 500 index lost 7.79 points, or 0.4 percent, to 1,977.65 and the Nasdaq composite fell 34.40 points, or 0.8 percent, to 4,451.53.

The Dow reached a record and a new 1,000-point milestone last Thursday by closing above 17,000 for the first time. The Russell 2000 index, which is made up primarily of small-company stocks, fell more than the rest of the market. The index lost 1.7 percent, versus the 0.4 percent decline in the S&P 500, which is made up of large companies.

Another sign that investors were hesitant to place big bets ahead of corporate earnings reports could be seen in Monday's low trading volume. Roughly 2.6 billion shares traded hands on the New York Stock Exchange, well below the 3.2 billion shares that moves on an average trading day.

Aluminum mining giant Alcoa reports its latest results on Tuesday and Wells Fargo, the No. 1 U.S. mortgage lender, reports on Friday. Investors are expecting second quarter profits to be up 4.9 percent from a year ago, according to FactSet.

"I think we're going to exceed expectations," Tanius said. "Companies were able to post 6 percent earnings growth in the first quarter, even with the U.S. economy contracting. Now that we've seen a rebound in economic activity, I think we're looking at a pretty good earnings season."

Major airlines stocks fell after the Transportation Security Administration announced new security measures that would impact international flights into the United States. The TSA said that all electronic devices would need to have power in order to travel, including tablet computers and cell phones, which could impact the number of passengers able to travel.□



**Specialist Charles Solomon works at his post on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange. After pushing stocks to records last week, investors turned cautious on Monday ahead of a batch of corporate earnings reports.**

**(AP Photo/Richard Drew)**

rebounded in the second three months of this year. Many companies blamed

its in order to justify these record-high prices. "As we've emphasized in

said Russ Koesterich, global chief investment strategist at BlackRock, in a note to

## ADM to buy Swiss flavoring maker for about \$3B

**DECATUR, III. (AP)** — Agribusiness giant ADM will pay about \$3 billion to buy the privately held Swiss company Wild Flavors, which supplies natural flavors and other ingredients to food and beverage makers.

The all-cash deal will total about \$3.13 billion counting debt, or 2.3 billion euros. Archer Daniels Midland Co. said Monday that the acquisition will let it enter one of the "largest and fastest growing consumer trends in both developed and emerging markets."

Already, ADM provides sweeteners and other ingredients for the beverage, meat and snack markets. Natural and artificial flavors are listed as ingredients in a wide variety of packaged foods and drinks, although companies don't disclose exactly what they contain. Such flavors help make Coke taste like Coke and Cheetos taste like Cheetos. Some of the



**The Archer Daniels Midland Company logo is seen at the ADM booth during the Farm Progress Show, in Decatur, Ill. ADM on Monday, July 7, 2014 said it will pay about \$3 billion to buy the privately held Swiss company Wild Flavors, which supplies natural ingredients to the food and beverage industry.**

**(AP Photo/Seth Perlman)**

biggest players in the industry include Givaudan, Firmenich, International Flavors & Fragrances, and

Symrise. Wild Flavors, founded in 1931, has production sites in Europe, the U.S., Asia

and South America. Its estimated revenue for this year is about \$1.36 billion, or 1 billion euros.□

## Economists express concern about slow French recovery

LIZ ALDERMAN

© 2014 New York Times

**AIX-EN-PROVENCE, France** - As Europe struggles to move past the worst of its debt crisis, France has increasingly become a worry.

The economy has been hovering too long near stagnation, economists warned at an economics conference here this weekend, saying that unless the government in Paris pushed more strenuously to improve growth alongside Germany, its performance threatened to weigh on the prospects for a wider recovery in the eurozone.

"The weakness of France is visible," Bertrand Badré, managing director and chief financial officer of the World Bank Group in Washington, said in an interview on the sidelines of the conference. "It's not that France and Germany should dominate," he added, "but if we can't find a way together it might be an issue."

That theme was repeatedly invoked during the three-day meeting by Le Cercle des Économistes as top European policymakers and economists addressed what has become the most urgent concern about Europe: that for all the steps taken to put crisis-stricken countries on a path toward renewed growth, the recovery is still unfolding much too slowly.

Christine Lagarde, managing director of the International Monetary Fund, hinted on Sunday that the fund's economic forecasts for Europe might be cut amid signs that the growth potential of numerous countries was weakening.

"The global economy is gathering speed, though the pace may be a bit less than we previously predicted," Lagarde told the conference. She added, "We see an investment deficit everywhere."

Investment in Europe is about 20 percent lower than it was before the crisis unspooled, while public investment - especially along Europe's southern rim - has been sharply tightened because of budget constraints, she said. Two years after Germany urged European countries to cut government spending and raise taxes to mend national accounts, policymakers are now discussing the need for shock-and-awe public investment programs, especially infrastructure projects, to offset growth slowdowns that have been deepened by austerity measures.

"There are still post-crisis problems in the eurozone," said Jacques Mistral, head of economic studies at the French Institute of International Relations. "There is a lot less spending today, so governments have to fill that hole." According to a recent report by the consulting firm PwC, Europe will represent just 10 percent of global infrastructure spending by 2025, falling from around 20 percent a few years ago, while the Asia-Pacific region will represent nearly 60 percent of such spending. Like many who gathered here for the conference, Mistral called for billions of euros in public investments in energy, the environment, and technology and high-speed Internet, where a number of countries - France included - sorely lag.

France has gotten its European partners to allow it to push back a deadline for reducing its budget deficit to 3 percent of gross domestic product, a target the government now plans to reach in 2015. French President François Hollande has called for exempting investment spending from deficit figures as he tries to re-energize France's economy.

Michel Sapin, the French finance minister, struck a more reassuring tone about the eurozone's second-largest economy, amid rising concern that France may be the new "sick man of Europe." □

## As banks exit remittance business, prices are projected to rise higher

MICHAEL CORKERY

© 2014 New York Times

As government regulators crack down on the financing of terrorists and drug traffickers, many big banks are abandoning the business of transferring money from the United States to other countries, a move that is expected to reverse years of declines

owed Mexican immigrants to send money to their families across the border. The Spanish bank BBVA is reportedly exploring the sale of its unit that wires money to Mexico and across Latin America. And in perhaps the deepest retrenchment by a bank, Citigroup's Banamex USA unit has now closed many

into mainstream banking. Even with the current, relatively low remittance fees, the costs can still add up. Some Latin American immigrants say they regularly send three remittances a week to pay for last-minute school supplies or rent. Manuel Santiago, a 48-year-old Mexican living in Queens, said he some-



**Henry Valladares, left, helps a customer at Viamericas, a money transfer company, in Arlington, Va., June 6, 2014. Many big banks are abandoning the business of transferring money from the U.S. to other countries, moves that are expected to reverse years of declines in the cost of immigrants sending money home to their families.**

(Drew Angerer for The New York Times)

in the cost of immigrants sending money home to their families abroad. While Mexico may be most affected - nearly half of the \$51.1 billion in remittances sent from the United States in 2012 ended up in that country - the banks' broad retreat over the last year is affecting other countries in Latin America and parts of Africa as well. The banks are being held accountable not only for the customers who directly use their money transfer services, but also for their role in collecting remittances from money-transmitting companies and wiring them abroad.

"This is transforming the business and may increase the costs of international money transfers," said Manuel Orozco, a senior fellow at the Inter-American Dialogue, a research group in Washington.

JPMorgan Chase and Bank of America have scrapped low-cost services that al-

of its branches in Texas, California and Arizona that catered to Mexicans living in the United States and stopped most remittances to Mexico as it faces a federal investigation related to money laundering controls. Regulators say the banking system was being exploited by terrorists and drug lords seeking to launder money. While they have not banned banks from engaging in higher-risk businesses like money transfers to certain countries, regulators acknowledge that banks must now invest significantly more to monitor the money moving through their systems or face substantial penalties. But the government's efforts to root out illicit activity have effectively put the banks into a law enforcement role, industry experts say. And the result is undercutting another public policy goal - helping immigrants, who are primarily low income, move

times pays \$4 to send as little as \$20 at a time to his son and daughter in Mexico. "I am supporting my family and things come up irregularly," he said.

The pendulum has swung so far, participants in the industry say, that regulators are pushing banks out of some activities considered beneficial to the broader economy. "The money transfer business has become the whipping boy of regulators who want to show how tough they are," said Paul S. Dwyer Jr., chief executive of Viamericas, a money transfer company based in Maryland with a large focus on Mexico.

Shut out by many large banks, more of Dwyer's customers are turning to large retailers in Mexico to pick up money sent from the United States, and some of those retailers charge money-transfer companies as much as double the banks' fees, he said. □

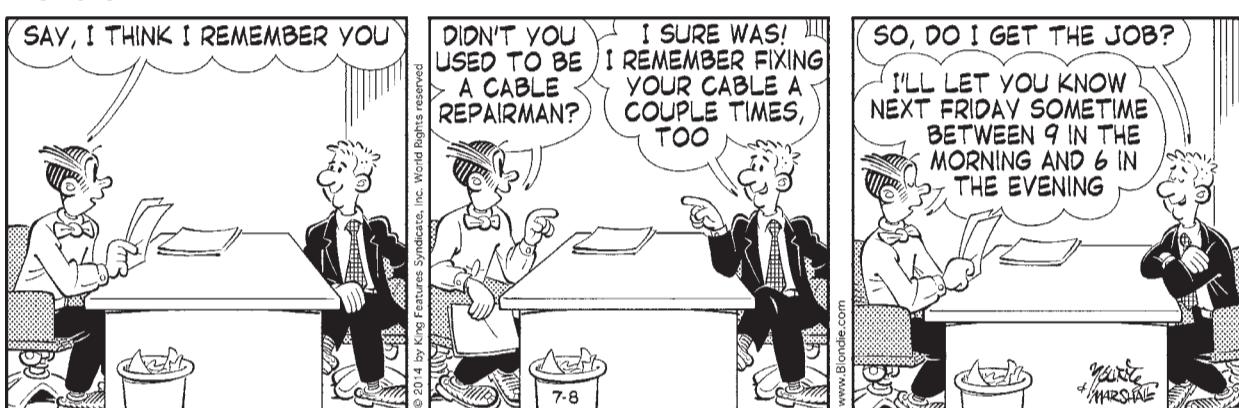
## Mutts



## 6 Chix



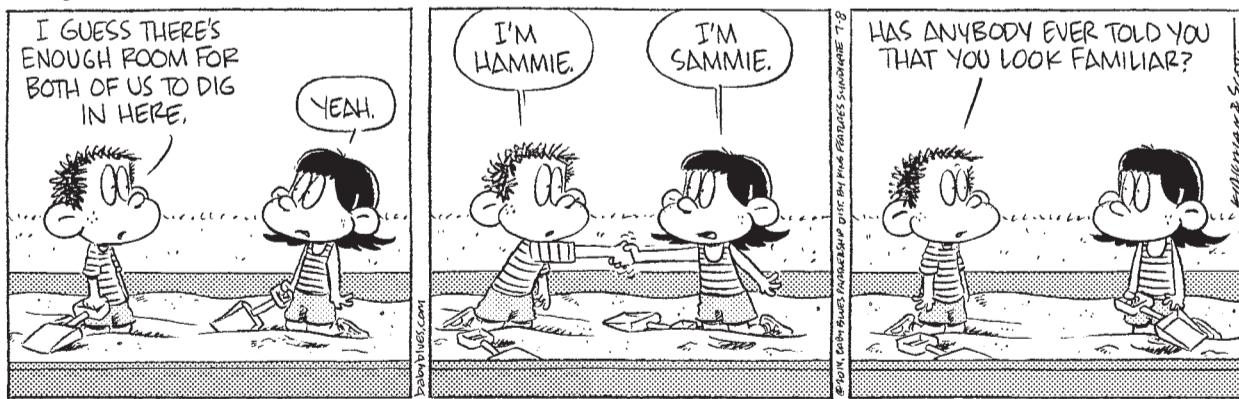
## Blondie



## Mother Goose &amp; Grimm



## Baby Blues



## Zits



## Conceptis Sudoku

		2										
5	1		3	9						7		
9		8	7						3			
8	4									3		
1								1				
	6		2	1					9	2		
7			4	3				5	8			
								2				

Difficulty Level ★★

7/08

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6	7	8	5	9	3	4	2	1				
4	2	9	8	6	1	5	7	3				
3	1	5	4	2	7	9	8	6				
8	3	2	6	1	9	7	4	5				
5	6	4	3	7	8	1	9	2				
1	9	7	2	5	4	3	6	8				
2	4	3	9	8	5	6	1	7				
7	5	6	1	4	2	8	3	9				
9	8	1	7	3	6	2	5	4				

Yesterday's puzzle answer

6	7	8	5	9	3	4	2	1				
4	2	9	8	6	1	5	7	3				
3	1	5	4	2	7	9	8	6				
8	3	2	6	1	9	7	4	5				
5	6	4	3	7	8	1	9	2				
1	9	7	2	5	4	3	6	8				
2	4	3	9	8	5	6	1	7				
7	5	6	1	4	2	8	3	9				
9	8	1	7	3	6	2	5	4				

## ACROSS

1 Change slightly  
6 Pretense; farce  
10 Gabor and Longoria  
14 — up; bungle  
15 Healthy  
16 Created  
17 Chop finely  
18 Fail to include  
19 Farm machine  
20 Tennis shoes  
22 Cling; stick  
24 Heap  
25 Swollen  
26 Insult  
29 Removes from power  
30 Beer's cousin  
31 Shift —; make a change  
33 Colander  
37 "Get —!", advice to the impractical  
39 Passenger  
41 Uttered  
42 Alaska's Palin  
44 Adjust an alarm  
46 Hang limply  
47 — off; narrow gradually  
49 In a tidy fashion  
51 Irrigated  
54 Appear  
55 Chairperson's outline  
56 Like a serrated blade  
60 Candy —; Christmas treat  
61 Cancer the —;  
Zodiac sign  
63 Bert's buddy  
64 Smooch  
65 Enormous  
66 Indy 500 car  
67 Singles  
68 2014, for one  
69 Toboggans

## DOWN

1 Poor box donation  
2 Cut of pork  
3 Melody  
4 Get away  
5 Stinking

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14					15				16			
17					18				19			
20				21		22	23					
				24		25						
26	27	28				29						
30			31	32		33		34	35	36		
37		38	39			40	41					
42			43	44			45	46				
51	52	53				54						
55					56				57	58	59	
60			61	62		63						
64		65			66							
67		68			69							

Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

7/8/14

## Monday's Puzzle Solved

RYE	U	S	H	E	R	M	I	S	S			
HE	A	P	T	H	E	R	I	O	W	A		
O	N	C	E	T	R	R	A	S	T	A	G	
S	H	A	M	E	L	E	S	T	A	M	E	
C	U	R	L	O	N	E	T	A	M	E		
B	R	A	H	M	S	A	B	N	O	R	M	
J	A	D	E	S	C	R	I	E	D	A	O	
O	D	E	S	P	O	S	E	D	B	I	A	
R	I	P	A	R	M	O	R	B	D	A	G	
N	O	T	A	T	I	L	A	P	S	E	S	
G	E	M	M	O	A	T						
R	O	L	E	A	D	M	I	S	S			
U	P	O	N	T	E	A	M	S	S			
B	E	A	T	E	R	I	J	E	M	S	H	
E	E	R	I	E	M	S	H					
S	E	P	C	S	S	A	Y					

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7/8/14

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6 Coastaline  
7 Show-offs  
8 Actress — MacGraw  
9 Tin and copper  
10 Special importance given  
11 Manservant  
12 Worship  
13 Made clothes  
21 Parent or grandparent  
23 Polka —; fabric pattern  
25 Transports for schoolchildren  
26 Rowers' needs  
27 Jumping insect  
28 Trepidation  
29 Tell the waiter what you'd like  
32 Made public  
34 "1955 film — of Eden"  
35 Small bottle  
36 Uptight  
38 Tardiness  
40 Rejuvenate  
43 Difficult

45 Wobbles  
48 " — keen!"; "Cool!" in a past decade  
52 Once more  
53 Past, present or future  
54 Fencing sword  
56 Long story  
57 A single time  
58 — up; bound  
59 His and —  
62 Regret

# Classifieds

## DIVI WEEK PHOENIX

wk 27, 7/5 to 12  
ocean front studio Rm 804, all  
amenities 4150\$ and  
Divi Dutch Village wk 27  
7/5 to 7/12, ground floor unit 13,  
king bed queen sleeper. Steps  
to pool and ocean 3150\$  
e-mail [rmwjmw@aol.com](mailto:rmwjmw@aol.com) or  
565-9394 until 7/13  
US 508 651 0016

202316

## TIMESHARE FOR SALE

Divi Dutch Village  
2 br, 2 bath sleeps 6, wk 26,  
6/28 to 7/5 Rms 96-1 and 96-2  
lock off 1 br, floor 3 Studio  
steps to ocean and pool 4950\$  
e-mail [rmwjmw@aol.com](mailto:rmwjmw@aol.com) or  
565-9394 until 7/13  
US 508 651 0016

202316

## TIMESHARE FOR SALE

Aruba Beach Club  
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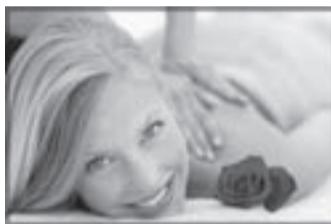
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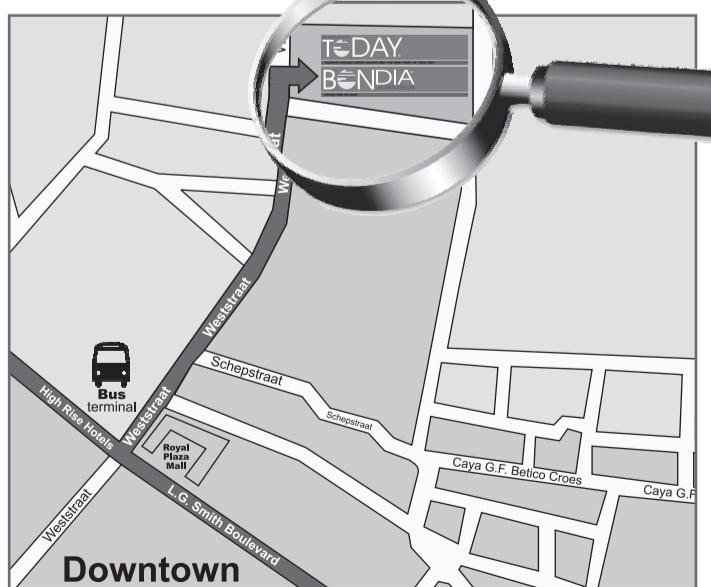
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# Obscure bird could affect control of U.S. Senate

NICHOLAS RICCARDI

Associated Press

**DENVER (AP)** — An obscure, chicken-sized bird best known for its mating dance could help determine whether Democrats or Republicans control the U.S. Senate in the November elections.

The federal government is considering listing the greater sage grouse as an endangered species next year. Doing so could limit development, energy exploration, hunting and ranching on the 165 million acres (67 million hectares) of the bird's habitat across 11 Western states.

Apart from the potential economic disruption, the specter of the bird's listing is reviving America's centuries-old debates about local vs. federal control and whether to develop or conserve the region's vast expanses of land.

It has become a key issue in Senate races that are being closely watched because Republicans need to gain six seats in November to capture majority control of the Senate. That scenario would allow the Republicans, who are virtually certain to maintain control of the House, to essentially shut down President Barack Obama's legislative agenda.

Two Republican congressmen running for the U.S. Senate in Montana and Colorado, Steve Daines and Cory Gardner, are co-sponsoring legislation that would prevent the federal government from listing the bird for a decade as long as states try to protect it.

"Montanans want locally driven solutions," Daines said in an interview. "They



This April 2014 photo provided by Colorado Parks and Wildlife shows a Gunnison sage grouse with tail feathers fanned near Gunnison, Colo.

Associated Press

don't want bureaucrats thousands of miles away in Washington, D.C., dictating what should happen." Environmentalists and the two Democratic senators being challenged, John Walsh in Montana and Mark Udall in Colorado, oppose the idea. They say they don't want a listing, either, but that the threat of one is needed to push states to protect the bird. The greater sage grouse is described in the journals of explorers Meriwether Lewis and William Clark, who were dispatched in the early 19th century by President Thomas Jefferson to lead an expedition to the Pacific coast. The bird once roamed widely across the massive sagebrush plateaus of the West's interior.

The bird is perhaps best known for its unusual springtime mating dance, during which it puffs its bulbous chest and emits odd warbles. But livestock grazing

eroded the bristly plant that the bird depends upon, development chopped up its habitat and energy exploration erected towers that chased it away from its home range.

Three environmental groups sued to force the federal government to protect the bird after the government declined to list it

as endangered in 2005. In a 2010 settlement, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service agreed to decide on listing by September 2015.

A major factor will be whether the federal, state and local landowners whose land it inhabits protect the grouse. Many environmental groups say the bird is a stand-in for a van-

ishing Western ecosystem that needs preserving.

"This is the great landscape of America, when you travel west and see open spaces," said Randi Spivak of the Center for Biological Diversity in Tucson, Arizona, one of the groups that sued to force grouse protection. "And that land has been drilled, subdivided."

Industry groups and state governments worry about the cost.

A study by the Western Energy Alliance, a Denver-based trade organization of independent oil and gas producers, estimates that from 5,000 to 31,000 jobs could be lost should the federal government take steps to protect the grouse.

Kathleen Sgamma, the group's vice president of government and public affairs, said that as the federal government starts to draw up protections, energy leases are being deferred, drilling projects shut down and bureaucratic hurdles raised to any kind of development in the bird's range. □

## Scientists criticize Europe's \$1.6 billion brain project

FRANK JORDANS

JOHN-THOR DAHLBURG

**BRUSSELS (AP)** — Dozens of neuroscientists are protesting Europe's \$1.6 billion attempt to recreate the functioning of the human brain on supercomputers, fearing it will waste vast amounts of money and harm neuroscience in general.

The 10-year Human Brain Project is largely funded by the European Union. In an open letter issued Monday, more than 190 neuroscience researchers called on the EU to put less money into the effort to "build" a brain, and to invest instead in existing projects.

If the EU doesn't adopt their recommendations, the scientists said, they will boycott the Human Brain Project and urge colleagues to do the same.

EU spokesman Ryan Heath

called for patience, and said it was too early to say whether the project is a success because it had only been under way for nine months. He said the EU plans to rigorously review the scientific progress made and the project's management every year.

Henry Markram, who heads the Human Brain Project at the Swiss Federal Institute for Technology in Lausanne, suggested those who signed the letter of protest did so because they didn't understand the venture.

In an interview, he said the project, established in 2013, would bundle the work of some 100,000 neuroscientists worldwide the way that CERN, the European Organization for Nuclear Research, has done for particle physics. He acknowledged the brain project

may have done a poor job telling scientists how they may benefit, even if they aren't directly involved.

"I think we need to communicate more that it's going to actually help them get more funding," Markram said.

"They feel that money is being taken away, that it's going to distract from the important work that they're doing. There is really not a threat."

The Human Brain Project involves 112 institutions across Europe and the pooling, sharing and organization of their data on brain research. That information will be used to reconstruct the workings of a human brain on computers. "Only through simulations can you do some things that aren't possible in the lab," said Markram. □

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# Halle Berry as a pregnant astronaut on 'Extant'

**FRAZIER MOORE**  
**AP Television Writer**

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Don't hate Halle Berry because she's beautiful. She's certainly a welcome TV presence this summer as the star of "Extant," a 13-episode thriller on CBS where she plays Molly Woods, an unexpectedly expectant astronaut. It premieres Wednesday (9 p.m. EDT).

The premise of the show — that Molly was somehow impregnated while on a solo yearlong outer-space mission — seems on its face outrageous funny business. As in, unintentionally funny. But "Extant" turns out to be smart and engrossing, with a meditative, gently futuristic touch (check that high-tech garbage can) that draws the viewer in.

And, of course, it boasts Berry, who is not only a delight for the eye but also a marvelous actress, with

an Oscar for her 2001 film "Monster's Ball" as solid evidence.

At the start we find Molly adjusting to life back on Earth with her scientist husband, John (Goran Visnjic), and Ethan, their adorable young son (Pierce Gagnon). Ethan, as we soon find out, isn't biologically theirs, or biological at all, but, instead, a robot. Or rather, a "humanic," designed by John to satisfy their childless state (Molly had been told she couldn't conceive).

John not only loves Ethan as if he is their own flesh and blood, but also sees him as the prototype of a new class of robot that can be raised from "childhood" and instilled with human values, "programmed by a day-to-day human experience," as John tells a group of potential funders for his Humanics Project. "The humanics brain learns

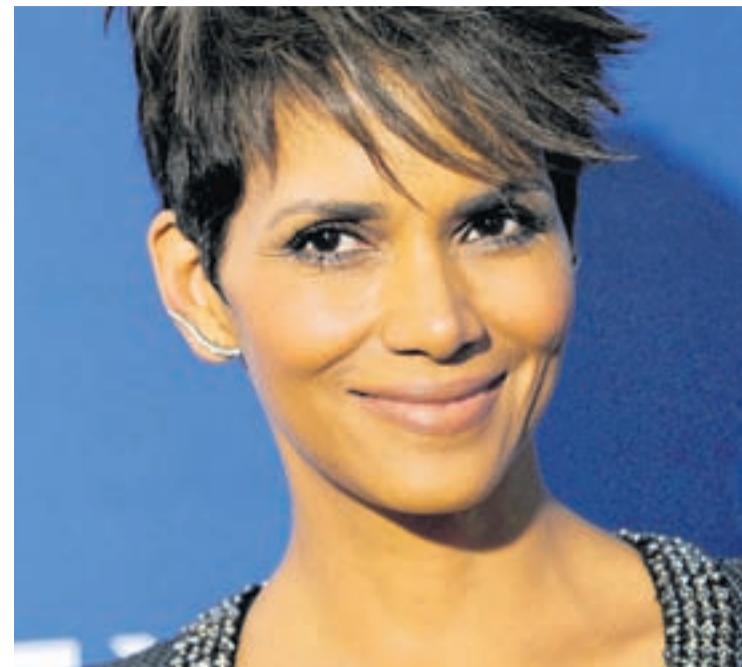
right from wrong, good from bad, the same way we did."

Of course, the success of this venture could lead to disaster. Were millions of humanics loosed on the planet, they just might rise up against their human masters. But that's a possibility John indignantly rejects.

Maybe he shouldn't. Molly soon finds that dear little Ethan is displaying flashes of psychopathic attitude. But she has other worries. She is hard-pressed to explain her pregnancy, and what to expect now that she is expecting.

She is haunted by not one but two dead (or are they?) astronaut colleagues.

And she is being investigated by her bosses at the private-sector International Space Exploration Agency for a suspicious 13-hour gap in her in-flight record-keeping. She had



This June 16, 2014 file photo shows Halle Berry at the premiere of the series, "Extant," in Los Angeles.

Associated Press

secretly pulled a Rose Mary Woods and erased the on-board video to hide a very strange event.

"Extant" makes effective use of familiar storytelling tropes: the evilness of big

business and science gone awry in an atmosphere of growing danger.

"Don't trust them," Molly is admonished by a shadowy figure at the end of the hour. □

## Pink Floyd to release new album after 20-year gap

**LONDON (AP)** — A fresh Pink Floyd album is on the way — 20 years after the band last released new material.

Spokesman Doug Wright confirmed Monday that

"The Endless River" will be released in October. It's described as consisting of "mainly ambient and instrumental music" based on 1993-94 recording sessions for the group's last album,

"The Division Bell." "The Endless River" features band members David Gilmour, Nick Mason and Richard Wright, who died in 2008. Roger Waters, who left the group in 1985, is not

involved.

Gilmour's wife, writer Polly Samson, tweeted that the album "is Rick Wright's swansong and very beautiful."

The psychedelic superstars

sold millions of copies of albums including "The Dark Side of the Moon" and "The Wall." They last performed together at the 2005 Live 8 charity concert. □

## Film 'Black Orpheus' to be adapted for Broadway

**MARK KENNEDY**  
**AP Drama Writer**

**NEW YORK (AP)** — With all eyes on Brazil and the World Cup, Broadway is getting into the act with plans to adapt the Oscar-winning film "Black Orpheus" for the stage.

Producers said Monday that Pulitzer Prize-winner Lynn Nottage will write the story and Tony Award-winner George C. Wolfe will direct.

The musical will have its world premiere on Broadway, but no timetable was set.

"Black Orpheus" is the 1959 film by Marcel Camus, re-creating the Orpheus and Eurydice myth in the Rio de Janeiro Carnival. It won the Palme d'Or at Cannes that

year and also a Golden Globe and an Oscar for best foreign-language film a year later.

The original movie — based on a play by Brazilian poet, lyricist, and playwright Vinicius de Moraes — was a French-Italian-Brazilian production directed by Marcel Camus and starred Marpessa Dawn and Breno Mello. The new musical's producers will be Stephen Byrd, Alia Jones-Harvey and Paula Marie Black. "We are so thrilled to bring this classic piece of Brazilian popular culture to life onstage,"

Byrd said in a statement. "The World Cup is providing a wonderful international platform for Brazil right now, and we look forward to fur-

ther spotlighting this legacy on Broadway."

Set against the exotic pageantry of Carnival, "Black Orpheus" tells the story of a couple who fall in love during Carnival and are forced to take a mystical journey to the underworld. The soundtrack popularized the nascent genre of bossa nova.

The film got some renewed attention in the past year when the rock band Arcade Fire drew on the myth and the movie for its latest album, "Reflektor."

Nottage won a Pulitzer Prize for her play "Ruined," and her other works include "Intimate Apparel" and "By the Way, Meet Vera Stark." Playwright and director Wolfe has won Tonys for



This April 4, 2012 file photo shows playwright and director George C. Wolfe at a screening of the film "The Intouchables" in New York.

Associated Press

"Angels in America: Millennium Approaches" and for

"Bring in da Noise/Bring in da Funk." □



In this Tuesday, June 24, 2014 photo, Terry Notary, a stuntman on the film "Dawn of the Planet of the Apes," demonstrates how he achieved ape-like movements with arm extenders for his motion capture performance for the film, at Hollywood Dance Center in Los Angeles.

Associated Press

## Movement pro transforms actors into apes on film

**SANDY COHEN**  
AP Entertainment Writer

**LOS ANGELES (AP)** — Terry Notary is Hollywood's human shape-shifter. In a blink, he can become an elf, an ape or almost any other moving creature. An expert in motion-capture performance, he specializes in bringing non-human characters to life on screen. He's played goblins in "The Hobbit," a Who in "How the Grinch Stole Christmas" and a winged, dragon-like banshee in "Avatar."

In "Dawn of the Planet of the Apes," opening Friday, Notary plays more than 100 primates. He also taught the film's stars and stuntmen how to find their simian side.

"He's like an ape Zen master," said director Matt Reeves. "He lives in every frame that has an ape in it."

Notary demonstrated his technique during a recent visit to the Hollywood dance studio he uses to prepare for films. The compact, muscular father of four visibly transforms as he describes how apes are gut-driven and grounded. His stomach softens, his

neck and shoulders slouch, his lower jaw protrudes. His eyelids drop slightly as his eyes take on a present yet faraway quality.

He grunts and howls before springing from his chair and breaking into a quadruped run. He bounces around the empty studio on all fours, with "arm extensions" he developed allowing him to mimic ape-like movements. He stops suddenly, as though he's spotted a threat, and becomes even more animated, emitting loud wails of distress.

Then he's back being human again to talk about the process.

Notary aspired to compete in the Olympics while training as a gymnast at UCLA but then found work with Cirque du Soleil after graduating with a theater degree. He came to Hollywood as a stuntman and from there, developed into a sought-after movement coach for motion-capture shots, where actors are wired and their movements captured electronically for the building of computer-generated imagery.

He created the lithe, long-limbed motions of the Na'vi in "Avatar," taught the Sil-

ver Surfer how to ride in "Fantastic 4: Rise of the Silver Surfer" and went ape in three films, starting with Tim Burton's "Planet of the Apes" in 2001. (He performed stunts in all as well.) "I'm a good observer of movement and behavior," the 45-year-old said. "That's what my talent is, I think."

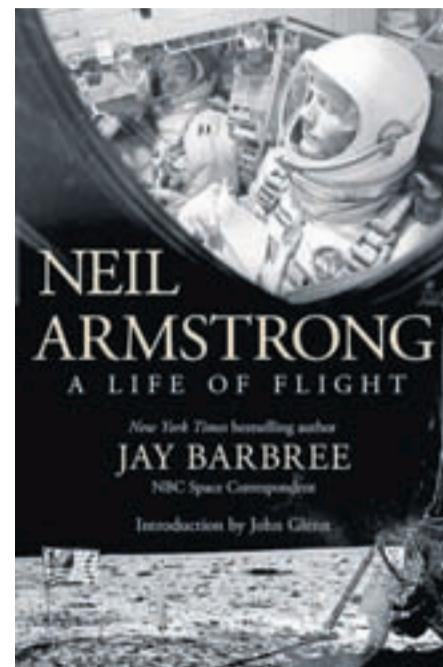
He begins with an image of the character. For imaginary creatures, he might picture objects from nature. When conceptualizing the Na'vi, for example, he thought of reeds swaying underwater, gracefully at ease with the energy around them. For a goblin, he thought of a piece of crumpled tin foil.

"If you throw it, it has hard edges," he said. "It's not going to be predictable. It's going to be edgy and sharp and not have any root."

To develop ape expertise, Notary hung out with a couple of chimps and spent a lot of time watching primates at the zoo, videotaping and studying their behavior.

"I just took every little video I could and dissected it into moments," he said.

## Review: New Neil Armstrong book glides, not soars



This book cover image released by St. Martin's Press shows "Neil Armstrong: A Life of Flight," by Jay Barbree. Associated Press

**ROB MERRILL**  
Associated Press

This is not a definitive biography of the man who first walked on the moon. It's not even authorized by his family, whatever that means.

But it certainly should be. There's not a negative word about America's space hero in Jay Barbree's new book. Barbree — the NBC News space correspondent who has covered every manned U.S. mission — was friends with Armstrong for decades. The book draws on their conversations as well as hundreds of other interviews and NASA transcripts to recount Armstrong's entire "life of flight," from combat missions in North Korea to those historic lunar steps and beyond.

So it's a little disappointing that it's not more of a page turner.

There have been so many books and movies and TV specials about the space race that a lot of what Barbree recounts feels re-tread. If you don't know about the Mercury, Gemini and Apollo missions, this is

a fine book to spend a few days reading, but space buffs searching for something they didn't know about that remarkable era may be left wanting.

Here's Barbree's ho-hum description of Armstrong's out-of-this-world moment:

"I'm going to step off the LM now," he said, lifting his left boot over the footpad and setting it down in moon dust that shot up and outward in a fine spray — a spray that lasted only a quick instant in the absence of an atmosphere. "That's one small step for man," Neil said with a momentary pause, "One giant leap for mankind."

To be fair, Armstrong was a famously reserved man. "Quiet hero" was the phrase that appeared most often in his obituary. And while that trait is worthy of admiration in an age when the next space traveler is likely to be a self-promoting billionaire, it just doesn't make for that exciting a book subject. Barbree's writing perks up when he describes flight, a subject he feels as passionately about as Armstrong did.

Here's his description of Apollo 11 at liftoff: "Birds flew for safety, wildlife fled for shelter, and the mighty rocket's shock waves slammed into the chests of the million-plus, rattling their bones and fluttering their skin and clothes."

The book ends on a bit of a down note, recounting the relatively sorry state of NASA in the 21st century. This December will mark 42 years since an American last walked on the moon. At its best, Barbree's book reminds readers of all that led up to that first step.

# Build We Won't



**PAUL KRUGMAN**  
© 2014 New York Times

You often find people talking about our economic difficulties as if they were complicated and mysterious, with no obvious solution. As the economist Dean Baker recently pointed out, nothing could be further from the truth. The basic story of what went wrong is, in fact, almost absurdly simple: We had an immense housing bubble, and, when the bubble burst, it left a huge hole in spending. Everything else is footnotes.

And the appropriate policy response was simple, too: Fill that hole in demand. In particular, the aftermath of the bursting bubble was (and still is) a very good time to invest in infrastructure. In prosperous times, public spending on roads, bridges and so on competes with the private sector for resources. Since 2008, however, our economy has been awash in unemployed workers (especially construction workers) and capital with no place to go (which is why government borrowing costs are at historic lows). Putting those idle resources to work building useful stuff should have been a no-brainer.

But what actually happened was exactly the opposite: an unprecedented plunge in infrastructure spending. Adjusted for inflation and population growth, public expenditures on construction have fallen more than 20 percent since early 2008. In policy terms, this represents an almost surreally awful wrong turn: we've managed to weaken the economy in the short run even as we undermine its prospects for the long run. Well played!

And it's about to get even worse. The federal highway trust fund, which pays for a large part of U.S. road construction and maintenance, is almost exhausted. Unless Congress agrees to top up the fund somehow, road work all across the country will have to be scaled back just a few weeks from now. If this were to happen, it would quickly cost us hundreds of thousands of jobs, which might derail the employment recovery that finally seems to be gaining steam. And it would also reduce long-run economic potential.

How did things go so wrong? As with so many of our problems, the answer is the combined effect of rigid ideology and scorched-earth political tactics. The highway fund crisis is just one example of a much broad-

er problem.

So, about the highway fund: Road spending is traditionally paid for via dedicated taxes on fuel. The federal trust fund, in particular, gets its money from the federal gasoline tax. In recent years, however, revenue from the gas tax has consistently fallen short of needs. That's mainly because the tax rate, at 18.4 cents per gallon, hasn't changed since 1993, even as the overall level of prices has risen more than 60 percent.

It's hard to think of any good reason why taxes on gasoline should be so low, and it's easy to think of reasons, ranging from climate concerns to reducing dependence on the Middle East, why gas should cost more. So there's a very strong case for raising the gas tax, even aside from the need to pay for road work. But even if we aren't ready to do that right now - if, say, we want to avoid raising taxes until the economy is stronger - we don't have to stop building and repairing roads. Congress can and has topped up the highway trust fund from general revenue. In fact, it has thrown \$54 billion into the hat since 2008. Why not do it again?

But no. We can't simply write a check to the highway fund, we're told, because that would increase the deficit. And deficits are evil, at least when there's a Democrat in the White House, even if the government can borrow at incredibly low interest rates.

And we can't raise gas taxes because that would be a tax increase, and tax increases are even more evil than deficits. So our roads must be allowed to fall into disrepair.

If this sounds crazy, that's because it is. But similar logic lies behind the overall plunge in public investment. Most such investment is carried out by state and local governments, which generally must run balanced budgets and saw revenue decline after the housing bust. But the federal government could have supported public investment through deficit-financed grants, and states themselves could have raised more revenue (which some but not all did). The collapse of public investment was, therefore, a political choice.

What's useful about the looming highway crisis is that it illustrates just how self-destructive that political choice has become. It's one thing to block green investment, or high-speed rail, or even school construction. I'm for such things, but many on the right aren't. But everyone from progressive think tanks to the U.S. Chamber of Commerce thinks we need good roads. Yet the combination of anti-tax ideology and deficit hysteria (itself mostly whipped up in an attempt to bully President Barack Obama into spending cuts) means that we're letting our highways, and our future, erode away. □



## Social Science Palooza IV



**DAVID BROOKS**  
© 2014 New York Times

A day without social science is like a day without sunshine. Fortunately, every morning Kevin Lewis of National Affairs magazine gathers recent social science findings and emails them out to the masses. You can go to the National Affairs website to see and sign up for his work, but, in the meantime, here are some recent interesting findings:

Working moms sometimes raise smarter students. Caitlin McPherran Lombardi and Rebekah Levine Coley studied the children of mothers who work and those of mothers who don't. They found the children of working mothers were just as ready for school as other children. Furthermore, among families where the father's income was lower, the children of working mothers demonstrated higher cognitive skills and fewer conduct problems than the children of non-working mothers.

As with all this work, no one study is dispositive, but here is some more support for the idea that mothers who work are not hurting their kids.

The office is often a more relaxing place than the home. Sarah Damaske, Joshua Smyth and Matthew Zawadzki found that people are more likely to have lower values of the stress hormone cortisol when they are at work than when at home. Maybe that's because parenting small kids is so demanding. But, on the contrary: Having children around was correlated with less

relative stress at home. Hearts and minds may be a myth. Armies fighting counterinsurgency campaigns spend a lot of effort trying to win over the hearts and minds of the local populations. But Raphael Cohen looked at polling data from Vietnam, Iraq and Afghanistan and found that public opinion is a poor predictor of strategic victory. Public opinion is not that malleable, and its swings are more an effect than a cause. That is, counterinsurgency armies get more popular as they win victories; they don't get popular and then use that popularity to win.

Attractive children attract less empathy than unattractive children. Robert Fisher and Yu Ma studied how much help children received from unrelated adults when they were experiencing difficulties.

People perceive that attractive children are more socially competent and, therefore, are less likely to help them, as long as the need is not severe. So, if you are creating an ad to get people to donate to your hospital or charity, you might avoid child models who are winners in the looks department.

Too much talent can be as bad as too little talent.

Most people assume there is a linear relationship between talent and team performance. But Roderick Swaab and others studied team performance in basketball and found that more talent is better up to a point - after which more talent just means worse teamwork and ultimately worse performance. In baseball, more talent did lead to better team performance straight up the line, but in activities like basketball, which require more intra-team coordination, too much talent can tear apart teamwork.

Title IX has produced some unintended consequences. Phoebe Clarke and Ian Ayres studied the effect of sports on social outcomes. They found that a 10 percentage point increase in state level female sports participation generated a 5 or 6 percentage point rise in the rate of female secularism, a 5 point rise in the proportion of women who are mothers and a 6 point rise in the percentage who are single mothers.

It could be that sports participation is correlated with greater independence from traditional institutions, with good and bad effects.

Moral stories don't necessarily make more moral children. Kang Lee, Victoria Talwar and others studied the effectiveness of classic moral stories in promoting honesty among 3- to 7-year-olds. They found stories like "Pinocchio" and "The Boy Who Cried Wolf" failed to reduce lying in children. However, the story of "George Washington and the Cherry Tree" significantly increased truth-telling. Stories that emphasized the bad effects of lying had no effect, but stories that emphasized the good effects of telling the truth did have an effect.

Good fences make good neighbors. When ethnic groups clash, we usually try to encourage peace by integrating them. Let them get to know one another or perform a joint activity. This may be the wrong approach. Alex Rutherford, Dion Harmon and others studied ethnically diverse areas and came to a different conclusion. Peace is not the result of integrated coexistence. It is the result of well-defined geographic and political boundaries. For example, Switzerland is an ethnically diverse place, but mountains and lakes clearly define each group's spot. Even in the former Yugoslavia, amid widespread ethnic violence, peace prevailed where there were clear boundaries.

Most social science research confirms the blindingly obvious. But sometimes it reveals things nobody had thought of, or suggests that the things we thought were true are actually false. That's a message for you, federal appropriators. □

# The Amazon's Floating Fields

**JERÉ LONGMAN**

© 2014 New York Times

**CATALÃO, Brazil** - In this floating village, there is only one way to travel. Students go to school by boat. Pentecostals go to church by boat. Taxis arrive by boat. Even the soccer field is often a boat.

There are three homemade

is," said Jailson da Silva de Souza, 23, a woodcutter in this village of about 100 families just across the enormous Rio Negro from Manaus, one of 12 cities hosting World Cup games. "Otherwise, we'll get a belly, and women don't like that."

The wooden houses in

yellow streamers flutter on porches. In one classroom, each member of Brazil's World Cup team is pictured with a star on the national flag.

Geane de Sousa, 27, who owns a small convenience store near the submerged fields, has the name of her favorite club team,

the houses, the school and even the provisional soccer fields in Catalão are built to float, the yearly flooding has historically been accommodated with relatively minimal impact. "The higher the water, the closer we are to God," said Laércio da Silva, 43, a carpenter.

owner. "They are stuck in the houses, bored."

The most adventurous, though, will find a game somewhere.

During a recent school holiday, seven boys played on the small wooden floor of the community center, which has a roof but only railings to keep the ball in play. School desks were stacked in a corner atop a rusty pool table. A wooden backstop was strategically placed along a gap in the railings. A long, narrow piece of lumber blocked another opening.

Barefoot, players ran deftly around posts that held up the ceiling, dribbled expertly in the tight space and fired hard shots against the railings that served as goals. When the ball went into the water, which was often, players slapped at it with a pole or, if it strayed too far, chased it with a canoe.

Finally, though, the players gleefully jumped in the river after the ball. As they dripped water, the center's floor became as slippery as an ice rink. Players collapsed in laughter as they tried, often futilely, to stay on their feet.

"I like it here, but the land is better because when you fall you don't hurt yourself," said Aldenei Texeira, 14.

Near dusk, as adults arrived from work in Manaus, the pickup game moved to the tiny dock at the Paracambi Restaurant.

"It's like two sports in one - swimming and football," said Raimunda Ferreira Viana, 51, the community president and the mother of its chief soccer organizer. Four or five years ago, the local owner of a construction company began offering the use of other makeshift fields: ferries that carry vehicles and heavy equipment on the river.

Small wooden goals are placed on the deck, and some players wear soccer cleats. Games are usually held in late afternoon because the iron surface can be blistering in equatorial heat. □



Young boys play soccer on the dock of a restaurant in Catalão, Brazil. The inhabitants of this floating village in the Amazon River basin have adapted their lives, and their passion for playing soccer, around the annual flooding of the Black River.

(Mauricio Lima/The New York Times)

fields on land, but they are submerged now in the annual flooding of the Black River, which meets nearby with the Solimões to form the Amazon. If the wooden goal posts had nets, they would be useful this time of year only for catching fish.

So young players and adults improvise. They play soccer at a community center that has a roof but no walls. They play on the dock of a restaurant. And they play on a parked ferry, a few wearing life jackets to cushion their falls on the metal deck and stay afloat while retrieving the ball from the river.

"We have to keep playing, having fun, wherever that

Catalão float on the trunks of felled trees. Chickens navigate logs and planks as they wander from their floating coops. Cars are kept across the Rio Negro in Manaus. The cemetery is there, too. And soccer must make its own accommodations. For years, locals said, they played on a mothballed oil tanker in the Rio Negro until it was sold and taken away.

"India bought it," said Alexandre Ferreira Viana, 35, the organizer of soccer activities in Catalão. "I heard it sank."

The passion for soccer is evident throughout the village. Brazil jerseys hang on laundry lines. Green and

Flamengo of Rio de Janeiro, on her outboard motor. She flies the team flag every time she launches her boat. "My father loved Flamengo, so I do, too," de Sousa said. Apart from soccer and school, there is not much for children to do here during the wet season except to fly small kites, some made from the plastic of supermarket bags, the strings wrapped around cans of soda.

"We don't like dominoes or cards," said Ferreira Viana, the soccer organizer. "We only like football."

The Amazon River basin, the world's largest, drains an area nearly the size of the contiguous United States. And because

Yet in Catalão, residents have been confronted with the effects of a recent trend of increasing floods and droughts in the Amazon basin. A white ring painted around a tree represents a record level of water reached during flooding in 2012.

In Catalão, villagers said that passing boats sometimes knocked down power lines during periods of exceptionally high water. And while the soccer fields are usually available for about half the year, the land has recently been dry enough for only four or five months of play.

"We don't have a place for the children to play," said de Sousa, the shop